



James and Margaret Reed, two survivors of the Donner Party tragedy.

Researcher's Guide to Sutter's Fort's Collections of Donner Party Material

Contact Information:

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park
2701 L Street
Sacramento, CA 95816
Phone: (916) 323-8112
Fax: (916) 442-8613

Prepared by:

Larry Bishop, CSU Sacramento.

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Preface

In the winter of 2004-2005 work began on processing the collection of documents and artifacts donated to Sutter's Fort by the estate of Martha Jayne Lewis, daughter of Martha J. (Patty) Reed Lewis, one of the survivors of the Donner Party's tragic crossing of the Sierras in the winter of 1846-1847. The purpose of the project was to apply standard archival practices in the processing of the documentary items in this collection and to create a finding aid to aid researchers and Donner scholars in the use of the material. Further, the finding aid was to be published on the World Wide Web through the Online Archive of California, a project of the California Digital Library at the University of California, Berkeley.

Since the arrival of the Lewis collection at the Fort in 1946, the material had been in use for museum displays and as a resource for scholars and authors detailing the experiences of the Donner Party, but the material had never been properly stored, arranged or described. This project, managed by Michael Tucker, Curator of the Historic Sites Office and Steve Beck, the Fort's first Archivist, at last addressed these needs. Graduate students from the Public History Program at California State University, Sacramento, Michelle Atkinson and Larry Bishop, assisted by Megan Landreth and Kirk Nelson completed the project in the fall of 2005.

During the course of the project other unprocessed documentary material was arranged, re-housed and described, and a thorough search of the Fort's archives yielded a significant amount of "orphaned" material related to the Donner story. Further, it became clear that the artifact collections pertaining to the Donner Party should also be cataloged and made available to the public. This became the task of Judy Russo, the registrar at the Historic Sites Office in West Sacramento. As of this writing Judy's diligent work on this project is almost complete, and a public catalog of Sutter's Fort's Donner Party artifacts will then be published as a companion to this guide of documentary material.

Introduction

On April 15, 1846 the families of James Fraser Reed and George and Jacob Donner, comprising 31 people in 9 wagons, left Springfield, Illinois for California. On May 19 the party joined a larger wagon train captained by William Russell about 100 miles west of Independence, Missouri. Other families and individuals joined the wagon train as the party traveled westward and by the time the party departed Fort Bridger in southwestern Wyoming the total number of people had grown to 74 and the total number of wagons to 20. By early August, as the party entered Utah, 87 people and 23 wagons were bound for California.

Following inaccurate advice they received en route, the ill-fated party, now captained by George Donner, opted to take an untried cut-off to the west. This “shortcut” put them weeks behind schedule, and by the time they had crossed Nevada and began their ascent of the Sierra Nevada it was too late in the fall season. Heavy snowfall stranded them in the mountains and for five months the group was trapped on the eastern side of the Sierra. Of the 87 men, women and children in the Donner Party, only 46 survived.

Today, more than 150 years later, the sad tale of the party’s entrapment by heavy snow, starvation, illness, and death, and the valiant efforts of those who rescued those hearty enough to survive the winter nightmare of 1846 still capture our imagination. The horrendous conditions ultimately drove some to engage in cannibalism in order to survive, and unfortunately this is the singular element of the story that comes to mind when we hear the name “Donner Party.” Behind this gruesome reality which has long over-shadowed the rest of the story, lies a heartening tale of fear, determination, self-sacrifice and courage in the face of relentless and cruel fate.

The emigrants’ destination was Sutter’s Fort in Sacramento, California. Now a State Historic Park the Fort is proud to hold one of the largest collections of Donner Party-related material in the world. In 2004 a project began to make the documentary material in this collection available to researchers, scholars and students. This guide is the result of that project.

The material described in this guide comes from four main sources: the archives' general research files; the curator's scrapbooks; the Martha J. (Patty) Reed Lewis Collection; and the Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Collection. As work continues on processing the many items in the archives at Sutter's Fort, other sources of Donner-related material will likely be cataloged and included in subsequent versions of this guide.



Harry C. Peterson, Curator at
Sutter's Fort, 1927-1941

For many years Sutter's Fort has maintained a collection of historic material in its General Files. Donner-related materials in these files include biographical information on members of the ill-fated party and the various rescue parties and their descendants, the trails they followed, and the places designated to memorialize the events. Also in these files may be found photographs of people and landmarks, news clippings, artwork and correspondence.

Sutter's Fort's first two curators, Harry C. Peterson and Carroll Hall assembled scrapbooks of news clippings pertaining to local history. Many clippings in these scrapbooks refer to the Donner Party tragedy and the many efforts to reconstruct its details and commemorate the event, as well as biographical information on some of the victims, survivors, members of the rescue parties, and their descendants, and the acquisition of Donner-related material by the Fort's museum. The clippings span the range c.1900 to c.1960. The following table references the page numbers in each scrapbook which contain material that might be of interest to Donner researchers.

In 1946 the estate of Martha Jayne Lewis, a survivor of the tragedy, donated her collection of memorabilia, manuscripts, and archival material to Sutter's Fort. The great majority of her collection concerns the affairs of her father, James Frazier Reed, one of the dominant characters in the Donner Party story. The collection described in the finding aid included in this guide is an artificial collection comprised of documentary material that



Martha (Patty) Reed Lewis and Frank
Lewis c.1860

may actually be from multiple sources. Since its donation to the Fort in 1946 items have been separated, re-housed, and possibly lost, but every effort has been made to reassemble the collection as much as possible. The material herein was gathered from storage at Sutter's Fort in the early 1990s by student interns, given an initial arrangement by volunteer archivist H. Alan Sims and registrar Marylou Lentz, and transferred first to the California State Parks Archives in Sacramento and then to the Historic Sites Sector Office in West Sacramento for final processing. Although the original integrity of the collection can not be guaranteed, the value of the material and its pertinence to the Donner history are unquestionable.



Charles E. Davis at Sutter's Fort,
c.1927

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Collection documents the efforts in 1927 to re-trace the Donner route from Independence, Missouri to Sacramento, California by Charles Davis, an amateur historian and explorer. He recorded his expedition in a journal and through regular correspondence with Harry C. Peterson, the curator at the Fort. This collection's photographs, which number more than a thousand, may be of particular interest to researchers interested in the Interstate Highway system and the development of modern roadways in the western states. Davis' photos show much of the western trails as they appeared before the highways and the resulting communities covered them over. A complete index to these photos is in Appendix A of this guide.

As of this writing, the archives at Sutter's Fort is still in its infancy, but under the able direction of its archivist Steve Beck, and with the assistance of dedicated graduate student interns and volunteers it will become one of California's most valuable resources for the study of early California. This guide and the material it describes are only the first steps in providing research functionality to the treasure trove of material faithfully gathered by the Fort's personnel over more than a century.

Larry Bishop
November 15, 2005

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Donner material in the General Files of the Archives at Sutter's Fort

| Folder Label | Object Type | Cabinet/Drawer/Old CatalogNo |
|--|-------------|------------------------------|
| "1996 National Portrait Gallery - loan of doll to" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party - Artifact inventory" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party - Newspaper articles" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party - Patty Reed's Doll" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party - Reed Family 1 of 2" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party - Reed Family 2 of 2" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party - requests from public and media" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party 2 of 2" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party -Breen cabin site" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Party, 1 of 2" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner State Historic Park" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Donner Trail" | info file | D3/2 |
| "Johnson's Ranch" | info file | D3/3 |
| "Reed File" | info file | D3/2 |
| Breen, family group | photo | G7/2/5090 |
| Breen, family group | photo | G7/2/2806 |
| Breen, John to Bancroft H.H. | document | Bios/2/ |
| Breen, Margaret | photo | G7/2/L298 |
| Breen, Margaret | photo | G7/2/2805 |
| Breen, Margaret | photo | G7/2/4994(5?) |
| Breen, Patrick | photo | G7/2/2804 |
| Breen, Patrick | photo | G7/2/L297 |
| Covillaud, Mary (Murphy) | photo | G7/3/3440 |
| Donner - Trail Marking Party - 1940" | photo | D1/3/ |
| Donner Doll - Postcard | photo | D1/2/ |
| Donner Lake | photo | D1/2/ |
| Donner Lake - Trip - Edwin Johnson Wagon | photo | D1/2/ |

| | | |
|---|---------|------------|
| Donner Memorial | photo | D1/2/ |
| Donner Party - camps, escape, relief | artwork | D1/2/ |
| Donner Party - Patty Reed's Doll | photo | D1/2/ |
| Donner Party - Stone at Alcove Springs, Ks" c1929 | photo | D1/2/ |
| Donner Party Members -photocopies | photo | D1/2/ |
| Donner Party -Scenes along Route c 1949, photocopies | photo | D1/2/ |
| Donner, George | photo | G3/3 |
| Donner, George Jr. | photo | G7/4/2075 |
| Donner, George Jr. | photo | G7/4/2075 |
| Eddy, Eleanor | photo | G7/4/6503 |
| Eddy, William | photo | G7/4/6502 |
| Eddy, William and Eleanor | photo | G7/4/6052 |
| Fort Bridger - Wy | photo | D1/3/ |
| Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Neil | photo | G6/1/1442 |
| Graves, Mary Clark | photo | G7/3/6748 |
| Graves, William | photo | G6/1/6747 |
| Graves, William C. | photo | G7/3/6747 |
| Keyes, Sarah | photo | G6/4/6536 |
| Murphy Cabin Site | photo | D1/2/ |
| Murphy, George W. | photo | G5/2/5990 |
| Murphy, Harriet | photo | G5/2/3442 |
| Murphy, Mary | photo | G5/2/3440 |
| Murphy, William G. | photo | G5/2/3443 |
| Pike, Naomi | photo | G5/3 |
| Rhodes, Daniel | photo | G2/2, G5/5 |
| Rhodes, Daniel | photo | G5/5 |
| Starkes, John S. | photo | G4/1/1435 |

Donner Material in the Curators' Scrapbooks

Sutter's Fort's first two curators, Harry C. Peterson and Carroll Hall assembled scrapbooks of news clippings pertaining to local history. Many clippings in these scrapbooks refer to the Donner Party tragedy and the many efforts to reconstruct its details and commemorate the event, as well as biographical information on some of the victims, survivors, members of the rescue parties, and their descendants, and the acquisition of Donner-related material by the Fort's museum. The clippings span the range c.1900 to c.1960. The following table references the page numbers in each scrapbook which contain material that might be of interest to Donner researchers.

| ScrapBook No. | Catalog No. | Relevant Page Numbers |
|---------------|-------------|--|
| 1 | 308-2176-2 | 77 |
| SF1 | 308-2176-1 | 84,88,89,97,124,126 |
| 2 | 308-2176-4 | 9,54 |
| SF2 | 308-2176-3 | 4,9-12,29,32,59,68,73,74 |
| 3 | 308-2176-5 | 65,108 |
| SF3 | 308-2176-21 | 2 |
| 4 | 308-2176-6 | 28-9,127,130 |
| 5 | 308-2176-7 | 83,88,89,97 |
| 6 | 308-2176-8 | 17,27,108,115,128 |
| 7 | 308-2176-9 | 76,77,82 |
| 8 | 308-2176-10 | 19-21,24-5,91,96 |
| 9 | 308-2176-11 | 4,42,86,89,110 |
| 10 | 308-2176-12 | 26-7,80-81 |
| 11 | 308-2176-13 | none |
| 12 | 308-2176-14 | 17,24,25,42,51,58,59,88,89,103,111 |
| 13 | 308-2176-15 | 105,122 |
| 14 | 308-2176-16 | 90,106,107,111,112,113,114,116,120,121 |
| 15 | 308-2176-17 | 9,16,18,30,32,37,38,39,51,72,89,90,108,109,114 |
| 16 | 308-2176-18 | none |
| 17 | 308-2176-19 | 6,7,9-11,13-14,34-5,53-4,58,68,71,95,108-9 |
| 18 | 308-2176-20 | 24 |



Guide to the Martha J. (Patty) Reed Lewis Collection

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park

Sacramento, California

Contact Information:

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park
2701 L Street
Sacramento, CA 95816
Phone: (916) 323-8112
Fax: (916) 442-8613

Processed by:

Michele Atkinson and Larry Bishop, CSU Sacramento.

Date Completed:

2005

Encoded by:

Larry Bishop

Descriptive Summary

Title

Guide to the Martha J. (Patty) Reed Lewis Collection

Dates

1826-1951 (bulk 1846-1926)

Collection number

Consult repository

Collector

Sutter's Fort State Historical Park

Extent

4 cubic feet in 9 museum boxes and 8 bound volumes

Repository

This collection resides at Sutter's Fort State Historical Park, Sacramento, California.

Abstract

On April 15, 1846 the families of James Fraser Reed and George and Jacob Donner, comprising 31 people in 9 wagons, left Springfield, Illinois for California. On May 19 the party joined a larger wagon train captained by William Russell about 100 miles west of Independence, Missouri. Other families and individuals joined the wagon train as the party traveled westward and by the time the party departed Fort Bridger in southwestern Wyoming the total number of people had grown to 74 and the total number of wagons to 20. By early August, as the party entered Utah, 87 people and 23 wagons were bound for California.

Following inaccurate advice they received en route, the ill-fated party, now captained by George Donner, opted to take an untried cut-off to the west. This "shortcut" put them weeks behind schedule, and by the time they had crossed Nevada and began their ascent of the Sierra Nevada it was too late in the fall season. Heavy snowfall stranded them in the mountains and for five months the group was trapped on the eastern side of the Sierra. Of the 87 men, women and children in the Donner Party, only 46 survived.

In 1946 the estate of Martha Jayne Lewis, a survivor of the tragedy, donated her collection of memorabilia, manuscripts, and archival material to Sutter's Fort. The great majority of her collection concerns the affairs of her father, James Frazier Reed, who she clearly admired and respected immensely. Many of her original writings are either laudatory accolades to her father or energetic defenses of his character.

The collection described in this guide is an artificial collection comprised of documentary material that may be from multiple sources. The material was gathered from storage at Sutter's Fort in the early 1990s by student interns, given an initial arrangement by volunteer archivist H. Alan Sims and registrar Marylou Lentz, and transferred first to the California State Parks Archives in Sacramento and then to the Historic Sites Sector Office in West Sacramento for final

processing. It is hoped that this guide will provide research functionality to this historic collection that documents the struggles of the Donner Party, the efforts to rescue them, and the cultural and historic impact their tragic tale has had on western lore. This archival finding guide is one element in the *Guide to the Sutter's Fort Collection of Donner Party Material*.

Administrative Information

Access

This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

[item] the Martha J. (Patty) Reed Lewis Material, Sutter's Fort State Historic Park, California State Parks, Sacramento, California.

Related Collections

The collection described in this finding aid represents those materials that are archival in nature and specifically assembled to create this collection. Artifacts and photographs that could also be identified as belonging to the Martha J. (Patty) Reed Lewis Collection are not included in this guide. For information on the artifactual and photographic materials related specifically to this collection contact California State Parks, or consult *The Guide to the Sutter's Fort Collection of Donner Party Material*. A number of related collections, both at the Fort and at other repositories contain additional material which could be of value to researchers of the Donner Party story.

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Collection, also at the archives in Sutter's Fort, documents the efforts in 1927 to re-trace the Donner route from Independence Missouri to California by Charles Davis, an amateur historian and explorer. He recorded his expedition in a journal and through regular correspondence with Harry C. Peterson, the curator at the Fort. This collection's photographs, which number more than a thousand, may be of particular interest to researchers interested in the Interstate Highway system and the development of modern roadways in the western states. Davis' photos show much of the western trails as they appeared before the highways and the resulting communities covered them over. The finding guide for this collection is another element in *The Guide to the Sutter's Fort Collection of Donner Party Material*.

A great deal of other material in the archives at Sutter's Fort contains information regarding the Donner Party. *The Marriage Register of Justice John Sinclair* contains the names of several Donner survivors who were married at the Fort in the year 1847. *John Bidwell's Ledger of November – December 1846* contains the names of several members of the relief parties that bravely climbed into the Sierras to rescue the stranded emigrants.

For many years the archives at Sutter's Fort has maintained a collection of historic material in its General Files. Donner-related material in these files include biographical information on members of the ill-fated party and the various rescue parties and their descendants, the trails they followed, and the places designated to memorialize the events. Also in these files are photographs of people and landmarks, news clippings, artwork and correspondence. Consult *The Guide to the Sutter's Fort Collection of Donner Party Material* for a listing of these files and their locations.

Carroll D. Hall, the curator at the Fort from 1944 to 1964, took a special interest in one of the items included in the Lewis Collection, the Miller-Reed diary of April to October, 1846. The diary, originally assumed to be that of Hiram O. Miller, contained variations in handwriting that puzzled Hall to such an extent that he enlisted the aid of a handwriting analyst of the State Department of Justice. The analyst confirmed what Hall had assumed; most of the diary was in fact written by James Frazier Reed. Hall then transcribed the entire diary, along with other documents from the collection, added his own analysis and commentary and published the work as *Donner Miscellany: 41 Diaries and Documents Edited by Carroll D. Hall* through the Book Club Of California in 1947. Only 350 copies were printed, but the Fort's archives has a photocopy of the entire volume for use by researchers. A copy of the original publication is available at the California State Library in Sacramento, California.

Also at the California State Library is *The James Frazier Reed Collection 1843-1851*, containing selected correspondence and business papers transferred from the Fort's Reed-Lewis collection to the State Library in 1967. Consult the Library's catalog for information on and access to this manuscript collection.

The Martha J. (Patty) Reed Lewis Collection herein contains a 1910 reprint of Patrick Breen's diary of November 20, 1846 - March 1, 1847. The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, has the original Breen Diary and has published digitized images of the entire work on the Online Archive of California available at <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/ebind2html/2/breen?cap>.

The Bancroft Library also houses the C.F. McGlashan Papers 1847-1931, which include correspondence and research materials he used for his book, *The History of the Donner Party* first published in 1879. McGlashan was a friend of Patty Lewis and besides this book he wrote many articles on the subject, and was instrumental in the creation of the Donner Memorial near Truckee, California.

The Huntington Library in San Marino, California holds the Eliza Poor Donner Houghton Papers, 1820-1978, the majority of which deals with the Donner Party. Eliza and nine other Donner Party surviving members are represented in this collection, both in correspondence and photographs. Contact the Huntington Library at (626) 405-2191 or online at http://catalog.huntington.org/screens/libinfo_02.html.

Lastly, scrapbooks created by Fort curators Peterson and Hall contain many news clippings relating to the Donner Party, efforts to re-construct the tragedy and memorialize it, the discovery of artifacts and their acquisition by the Fort, and biographies and obituaries of Donner survivors and rescuers and their descendants. These clippings from various newspapers and magazines span the period from c.1900 to the 1960s. A listing of the specific pages in each of the 21 scrapbooks that have Donner-related clippings is available in *The Guide to the Sutter's Fort Collection of Donner Party Material*.

Acquisition Information

In 1946 the estate of Martha Jayne Lewis, daughter of Martha J. (Patty) Reed Lewis donated her mother's collection of memorabilia, manuscripts, and archival material to Sutter's Fort. Unfortunately, *in the ensuing years other Donner-related donations may have been subsequently intermixed with no concerted effort to maintain the provenance of the Lewis collection and some items donated by the Lewis estate have been transferred to or scattered among other park units and state agencies.* In 1947 Carroll D. Hall, curator of Sutter's Fort, noted that other donors may have included Stanley Houghton, grandson of George Donner, Virginia Eddy, granddaughter of Donner Party survivor W.H. Eddy, and Emelie Williamson, grand-niece of William Graves, another survivor. The collection, as it exists today, has been artificially assembled to best reflect what is believed to have been material collected by Patty Reed Lewis before her death in 1923 and donated to Sutter's Fort following the death of her daughter in 1946.

Processing History

This collection was processed by Michele Atkinson and Larry Bishop, with assistance from Megan Landreth and Kirk Nelson, June 2005. The finding aid was written by and encoded by Larry Bishop.

History and Biography

James Frazier Reed was born in County Annagh, Ireland November 14, 1800. He was of Polish descent; the last name originally being Reedowsky or Reednoskia and subsequently anglicized. While still a small child he traveled with his Scotch-born mother to the United States after his father's death, where they settled in Philadelphia. At the age of eight or nine he went to live with his maternal uncle in Virginia. By age twenty he had moved to Illinois, and found work as a miner. By 1831 he had established himself as a furniture maker in Springfield, Illinois. In 1832 he joined the Illinois Militia with Jacob Earby's Mounted Volunteers to fight in the Black Hawk War. Black Hawk was a Sauk Indian chief who led 300 to 500 warriors and 500 to 700 women and children into northern Illinois to reclaim land he believed had been illegally appropriated by the U.S. Government. Black Hawk and his people were pursued, massacred, and driven from Illinois by the combined force of the Illinois Militia and U.S. Army troops. Reed and Abraham Lincoln served together in Earby's Volunteers.

After his service in the war Reed returned to Springfield to engage in mercantile pursuits and farming. In 1834 he married Margaret W. Keyes Backenstoe, a widow with a daughter from her previous marriage, Virginia Backenstoe. The couple eventually had six children together, one dying in infancy. The other five were Martha (also known as Patty) born in 1838, James Jr., born in 1841, Thomas, born in 1843, Charles, born in 1848, and Williamoski, born in 1850. In 1845 he was appointed to be Illinois' agent for U.S. pensions, though he served in this capacity for less than a year.

By the time Reed connected his new family to those of George and Jacob Donner for the trip to California on April 14, 1846, he had amassed considerable wealth as the owner of several businesses including a general store, a starch factory, a sawmill, and a cabinet making company that employed a large number of men. Reed may have spent a full year preparing for the journey. He built a larger than usual wagon for the comfort of his family and especially for the convenience of his ailing mother-in-law, Sarah Keyes, 70. In addition to this wagon, Reed loaded two others with supplies and provisions. Along with the oxen teams for the wagons they took extra cattle and horses and Reed hired three teamsters and two servants to help. The Reed family wagon train was generally described by others in the party as the most affluent.

On May 19 the Donners and Reeds joined a much larger wagon train captained by William H. Russell. In mid-June Russell resigned as captain and another member of his original train, William Boggs, assumed the position. About the middle of July, while camping at the Little Sandy River in present-day Wyoming a group of the emigrants decided to take a promising, but as yet untried shortcut known as the Hastings Cut-Off. George Donner became the captain of this new group, which included the Reeds and several other families that had joined them en route, and which became what is now generally known as the Donner Party. The Boggs company elected to take a more customary route northward. The Hastings Cut-off proved difficult and demanding and the Donner party lost not only precious time but cattle, oxen and wagons while crossing through Utah. By the time they had passed the Great Salt Desert Reed had lost almost all of his cattle and was forced to abandon two of his three wagons.

In early September, recognizing the implications of their costly delays, the party sent Charles Stanton and William McCutchen ahead to Sutter's Fort to fetch supplies. In late September the bedraggled train reached the end of the Hastings route and rejoined the California Trail at what is today the city of Elko, Nevada. Then they began traveling along the Humboldt River. It was there on October 5 that Reed became involved in a dispute with John Snyder, a teamster for another family. Details of this dispute vary greatly from one witness' account to another but in the scuffle Reed stabbed and killed Snyder, whether in self-defense or

out of malice is still debated, but his actions resulted in his departure from the party. Reed traveled ahead to Sutter's Fort to bring back supplies.

On October 28 Reed reached the Fort and found McCutchen still there, recovering from an illness. Stanton had since made his return to the mountains with supplies, having reached the emigrants, now stranded by heavy snow on the east side of the summit with little or no food left, about a week earlier. In November Reed and McCutchen made an attempt to return to their families but were driven back by heavy snow. They returned to Sutter's Fort where Sutter advised them to go to Yerba Buena, modern-day San Francisco, to make his needs known to the U.S. naval officer in command, J.B. Hull. He reached San Jose, and as an able-bodied American, he joined a group of volunteers to clear the way from there to Yerba Buena. On January 2, 1847, he was involved in a small skirmish known as the Battle of Santa Clara, the only campaign in the Northern District of California between the Californios and the United States forces during the Mexican-American war. When he reached Yerba Buena he was able to secure \$1300 in donations from residents and sailors at the port. In all Reed spent a few weeks in the area, where he eventually secured land for himself and his family around San Jose.

The supplies purchased in Yerba Buena were sent by schooner to the mouth of the Feather River, where Reed spent the next two weeks securing men and horses to aid him in an expedition to rescue the stranded emigrants in the mountains. On the way up the western slope Reed was met by an earlier relief party coming down the slope with women and children. He was reunited with his wife, his stepdaughter Virginia, and James Jr. His daughter Martha and son Thomas were unable to make the trip and still remained, in terrible physical condition, at one of the campsites above. On March 1 Reed arrived to rescue his two remaining family members and lead them and fifteen others back to safety. Within a week this group was trapped by a severe storm and Reed and his friend Hiram Miller carried Martha and Tommy while the rest stayed at what has become known as "Starved Camp." This group was rescued four days later by the next relief party heading for the summit. This party brought several more of the starving exhausted emigrants out of the mountains. A fourth relief party reached the summit camps in mid April but only one man was left alive. He was safely returned to Sutter's Fort on April 29, the last survivor brought out to safety.

Reed settled his family in San Jose, and although he was virtually penniless when he arrived, he eventually established himself as a community leader, a wealthy landholder and a successful businessman. He also served as Sheriff in the Sonoma District and Chief of the police force in the city of San Jose. In the mid 1850s squatters occupied much of Reed's land in San Jose and he moved his family to the Santa Cruz area until his rightful claim to the property was declared legal in 1860. The following year his wife Margaret passed away. He tried unsuccessfully to establish quartz mining companies in Idaho and Nevada in the early to mid 1860s, even returning to the East Coast to secure investors during this time, but gave up and returned to San Jose where he spent the rest of his life surrounded by family and friends. Reed died on his Farm in San Jose on July 24, 1874 of complications resulting from a head injury that occurred when he was tossed from the back of one of his favorite mules. He left a substantial amount of wealth to his children and grandchildren.

Martha Jayne (Patty) Reed Lewis was born February 26, 1838 in Springfield, Illinois; the oldest child born to James Frazier Reed and Margaret Wilson Reed. She was only eight years old when her family joined those of George and Jacob Donner's on the ill-fated trip to California. She was sometimes called "Mattie" but throughout her life was most commonly called "Patty."

In early November, 1846 with her mother, older sister and two younger brothers, Patty was trapped in the snow at the east end of Truckee (now Donner) Lake after her father had departed the company for Sutter's Fort. When the first relief party arrived in the third week of February she and her youngest brother Thomas were too weak from starvation to travel. Her mother left with her sister Virginia and her other brother James Jr, reluctantly leaving the two

weaker children at the lake in the care of the Graves family. As they separated Patty calmly and bravely told her mother "Well, Ma, if you never see me again, do the best you can." In a little more than a week her father arrived with the second party of rescuers and she and Thomas along with fifteen others were then led back away from the dilapidated, abandoned cabins that had been their desperate homes during the frigid winter. Along the way this group was again trapped in blinding snow. James Reed with help from his friend Hiram Miller carried Patty and Thomas to safety while the rest, unable to proceed, made a makeshift camp. More than half of the emigrants at this camp perished before another relief party arrived.

Patty Reed married Frank Lewis in Santa Cruz, California on Christmas day in 1856 at the age of eighteen. The couple had eight children together; Kate, Margaret, Frank Reed, Martha Jane, James Frazier, Carrie E., Susan Augusta, and one other child who died as a baby. They settled in San Jose and Patty remained there until Frank's death in 1876. Her youngest child was only three years old at the time and Patty began supporting herself as a proprietor of boarding houses and hotels in Santa Cruz and Capitola. Throughout her life Patty was involved with the Donner Party story; she preserved her father's letters and family artifacts, advised authors and scholars of her time who were chronicling the tragedy, corresponded with other survivors, and along with Eliza Donner was a star at the opening of the Donner Memorial in 1918. Having survived the grueling passage across the western plains and that horrific winter of 1846 as a mere girl she symbolized the indomitable spirit of those remarkable pioneer women who helped settle California. Patty Reed Lewis died July 4, 1923 in Santa Cruz, leaving her collection of Donner Party material to her daughter Margaret with instructions that it be donated to Sutter's Fort on the centennial of the tragedy. Margaret did not live to carry out the request, but her son faithfully donated the material to the Fort in 1946.

Chronology

| | |
|----------|--|
| April 14 | The families of James F. Reed and George and Jacob Donner, 31 people in nine wagons, leave Springfield, Illinois. |
| May 19 | The party joins a large wagon train captained by Col. William H. Russell. |
| June 18 | William Russell resigns as captain of the wagon train, which is now led by William M. Boggs. |
| June 27 | The Boggs Party arrives at Fort Laramie, Wyoming and meet James Clyman, an acquaintance of Reed's. They discuss a new route, the Hastings Cutoff. |
| July 19 | The Boggs Party and several others camp at the Little Sandy River in present-day Wyoming. A group of emigrants decides to take Hastings Cutoff. They elect George Donner as their captain. The other emigrants take the established northerly route by way of Fort Hall. |
| July 28 | The Donner Party reaches Fort Bridger. Jim Bridger assures the Donner Party that the Hastings Cutoff is a good route. |
| July 31 | They leave Fort Bridger. The group now numbers 74 people in twenty wagons. |
| Aug. 28 | The emigrants begin the dry drive across the Great Salt Lake Desert. |

- Sept. 4-9 After a torturous crossing of the desert, Reed has lost almost all of his cattle and he abandons two of his wagons. George Donner and Louis Keseberg abandon one wagon each. Food is getting low and the party sends Charles Stanton and William McCutchen ahead to Sutter's Fort to bring back supplies.
- Sept. 26 The party reaches the junction with the California Trail about 7 miles west of modern Elko, Nevada. They travel along Humboldt River for the next two weeks.
- Oct. 5 Reed kills John Snyder, a teamster for one of the other families, in a dispute and is banished from the train; he goes ahead to Sutter's Fort to bring back supplies.
- Oct.15-30 The party reaches the Truckee River. After a rest at Truckee Meadows (present-day Reno), they begin their ascent of the Sierras. Charles Stanton returns from Sutter's Fort with seven mules packed with supplies and two Indian vaqueros who worked for Sutter. Snow begins to fall. The Donners are held up in the Alder Creek Valley by a broken axle. The other emigrants go on ahead to Truckee Lake. Reed meets McCutchen at Sutter's Fort and the two men begin preparations to go back for their families.
- Oct.30-Nov.4 The larger group of emigrants reach Truckee (now Donner) Lake. Snow thwarts their efforts and they retreat to the eastern end of the lake, where there is an existing cabin. They quickly build two more makeshift cabins. Fifty-nine people huddle in the three cabins.
- Nov. 5-Dec.5 Reed and McCutchen attempt to reach their stranded companions but are forced back by the snow.
- Dec. 16 Charles Stanton and William Eddy set out with fifteen men, women, and children to cross the mountains on snowshoes. They are weak from hunger and have few provisions. The group is later called the "Forlorn Hope."
- Dec. 21 Jacob Donner, and three others die at the Alder Creek camp.
- Dec. 25-29 A blizzard catches the Forlorn Hope in the open. Four of their number die, and with nothing left to eat the survivors tearfully resort to cannibalism.
- 1847**
- Jan. 18-20 Seven survivors of the Forlorn Hope reach safety at Johnson's Ranch in Wheatland, California.
- Feb.18 The first relief party, led by R.P. Tucker and Aquila Glover, reaches the lake. Eleven emigrants have died, and the others are in bad shape physically and emotionally. They evacuate those strong enough to travel, including Reed's wife Margaret and two of their four children.
- Mar.1 The second relief party led by James Reed arrives at the lake camp. The rescuers find evidence of cannibalism.
- Mar. 3 Reed leaves the camps with 17 emigrants including his children Patty and Tommy Reed.

- Mar.5-7 A blizzard traps Reed's party in Summit Valley. Reed and his friend Hiram Miller carry Patty and Tommy Reed, but the rest of the refugees are too weak to travel and stay at what is later called "Starved Camp."
- Mar.12 The third relief party, led by William Eddy and William Foster, reach Starved Camp. Mrs. Graves and her son Franklin have died. They and Isaac Donner have been cannibalized. One of the rescuers, John Stark, stays to help the Breens and others out of the mountains while the others continue up to the camps.
- Mar. 13 Eddy and Foster's party arrive at the lake camp. They find their sons are dead.
- Mar. 14 At the Alder Creek camp, George Donner has died from infection an injury he suffered months before. The Third Relief departs with Frances, Georgia, and Eliza Donner and Simon Murphy. Elizabeth and Lewis Donner have died. Samuel Donner, Levinah Murphy, and Louis Keseberg are too weak to travel
- April 17 William Fallon and the Fourth Relief party reach the camps, finding only Louis Keseberg alive among the mutilated remains of his former companions.
- April 29 The last member of the Donner Party, Louis Keseberg, arrives at Sutter's Fort.

Source: *New Light on the Donner Party*, by Kristin Johnson, copyright 2005,
<http://www.utahcrossroads.org/DonnerParty/>

Collection Scope and Content Summary

The largest portion of the material in this collection was collected by Martha J. "Patty" Reed Lewis (1838-1923), a survivor of the Donner Party tragedy, and was donated to Sutter's Fort by her daughter's estate in 1946. Most of the material collected by Reed-Lewis concerns the business affairs and personal experiences of her father, James Frazier Reed (1800-1874) and the events of the Donner Party tragedy. The Patty Reed Lewis Material, as described in this guide, contains material related to her, her family, and the other members of the Donner Party, *but may not have been contained within the material originally donated to the Fort by her daughter's estate. Other pieces from her collection have likely been scattered or lost.* This collection contains additional accruals of Reed or Donner-related material collected by Sutter's Fort staff over a period of about fifty years for which clear provenance has not been established.

This material in this collection spans the period from 1826 to 1951. Types of material in this collection include correspondence; business records such as ledgers, receipts, invoices, stock certificates, requests for goods or services, agreements and promissory notes; legal documents such as petitions, deeds, titles, depositions, and summons; certificates, announcements and minutes pertaining to James Reed's membership in the Masonic Order; and correspondence, ledgers and lists relating to his role as the agent for U.S. Pensions for the State of Illinois prior to his departure for California. Also included in this collection are recollections, notes, journals, scrapbooks, printed material, ephemera, artwork, publications, photographs, tintypes, ambrotypes, daguerreotypes, news clippings, maps, and drawings.

The material in this collection has been arranged into the following series:

- Series 1. Correspondence
- Series 2. Legal Documents
- Series 3. Financial Documents
- Series 4. Masonic Documents
- Series 5. Pension Agent's Documents
- Series 6. Recollections, Notes, Journals and Scrapbooks
- Series 7. Ephemera and News Clippings
- Series 8. Books and Booklets
- Series 9. Photographic Material
- Series 10. Separated Items

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection

Personal Names

Breen, Patrick
Breen, Margaret
Donner, Eliza Poor
Donner, George
Donner, Jacob
Eddy, William H.
Hull, K.B.
Kern, E. M.
Keseburg, Lewis
Lewis, Martha J.
McCutchen, William
McGlashan, C.F.
Miller, Hiram
Reed, James Frazier
Reed, Margaret
Reed, Martha J.
Reed, Patty
Reed, Virginia,
Stanton, Charles
Stocton, R.F.
Sutter, John Augustus

Subjects

California--History--1846-1850.
California--Pioneers
Donner Party
Historic sites--California

Collection Contents

Series 1. Correspondence, 1831-1951 and undated. 2 boxes, 137 folders.

The bulk of this series is comprised of correspondence to and from Martha J. Reed Lewis and of correspondence to and from her father James Frazier Reed that was collected by her. The remainder of the series is third-party correspondence also collected by her. Material in this series covers the range 1831 to 1951 but the bulk of the letters date from 1846 to 1923. Material dated after Martha's death in 1923 primarily concerns Sutter's Fort's involvement with the Donner material. This series includes a number of handwritten transcriptions of original letters done by Edwin Sherman, an employee of Sutter's Fort, that were made at the request of Carroll Hall, the curator of Sutter's Fort from 1944 to 1964. Significant correspondents represented in this series include fellow survivors Patrick Breen and Jacob Donner, R.F. Stockton, Mariano Vallejo, Thomas O. Larkin, E.M. Kern, J.B. Hull, and John A. Sutter.

This series is divided into four groups: incoming correspondence to Martha Reed Lewis, outgoing correspondence from Martha Reed Lewis, incoming correspondence to James Frazier Reed, outgoing correspondence from James Frazier Reed., and collected correspondence between third parties. Groups are arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and then chronologically.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|---|------------------------|
| Incoming correspondence to Martha Reed Lewis, April 18, 1879 to April 5, 1921. | 8-3-308 : 1-9 |
| Chapman, C.W., May 3, 1918 and April 5, 1921. | 8-3-308 : 1-2 |
| McGlashan, C.F., Apr. 18, 1879 to Feb. 12, 1912. | 8-3-308 : 3-5 |
| Sherman, Edwin A., Jan. 11, 1910 and Apr. 19, 1913. | 8-3-308 : 6-7 |
| Thomas, H.J., Dec. 6, 1918. | 8-3-308 : 8 |
| Women's Board, Panama Pacific International Exposition, Oct. 14, 1915. | 8-3-308 : 9 |
| Outgoing correspondence from Martha Reed Lewis, Feb 2, 1909 to Jun 26, 1923 | 8-3-308 : 10-20 |
| Colton, John B., May 3, 1915. | 8-3-308 : 10 |
| Chapman, Dr., Mr. and Mrs., Mar. 5, 1912 to Mar. 4, 1922. | 8-3-308 : 11-13 |
| Historic Landmark Committee NSGW, June 26, 1923. | 8-3-308 : 14 |
| Houghton, Eliza Donner, Mar. 6, 1912. | 8-3-308 : 15 |
| Lee, Harriet L., 1912. | 8-3-308 : 16 |
| McGlashan, Mr., undated. | 8-3-308 : 17 |
| Teggert, Frederick, Mar. 19, 1912. | 8-3-308 : 18 |
| "Sorrowing friend," Feb. 2, 1909 | 8-3-308 : 19 |
| "Our dearest friends," Apr. 12, 1912 | 8-3-308 : 20 |
| Incoming correspondence to James Frazier Reed, Mar. 14, 1841 to Sept. 20, 1857 | 8-3-308 : 21-78 |
| Bannister, Edward, Aug 23, 1851. | 8-3-308 : 21 |
| Beard, E.S., May 4, 1853 | 8-3-308 : 22 |
| Boggs, Liburn W., Jun, Jul, 1847 (handwritten copies). | 8-3-308 : 23 |
| Branham, P.A., Feb 28, 1853 and Mar 9, 1853 | 8-3-308 : 24 |
| Buchanan, K.C., undated. (handwritten copy) | 8-3-308 : 25 |
| Buchanan, John C., Apr. 17, 1848 | 8-3-308 : 26 |
| Francis, A.G., undated. | 8-3-308 : 27 |
| "Haight and Geary," Nov. 1, 1855 | 8-3-308 : 28 |

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|---|-----------------|
| Hart, Wm., Aug. 13, 1851. | 8-3-308 : 29 |
| Hesley(?), N., Apr. 5, 1850. | 8-3-308 : 30 |
| Hoppe, J.D., Apr. 21, 1847 to Sept. 10, 1849. | 8-3-308 : 31-35 |
| Howard, W.H., Mar. 18, 1856. Oversized item moved to Map Drawer 15-16, Cabinet E-4. | 8-3-308 : 36 |
| Hull, J.B., Feb. 6, 1847. | 8-3-308 : 37 |
| Huntington, G.S., Dec 30, 1848 (handwritten copy). | 8-3-308 : 38 |
| Hunting, G.S., Dec 30, 1848. | 8-3-308 : 39 |
| Keyes, J.W., undated. Oversized item moved to Map Drawer 15-16, Cabinet E-4. | 8-3-308 : 40 |
| Keyes, J. W., Mar. 24, 1848 and Dec. 22, 1848. | 8-3-308 : 41-42 |
| Keyes, K.C., Mar. 31, 1847 and Aug. 28, 1847. | 8-3-308 : 43-44 |
| Maxey, James M., Nov. 10, 1845 and Mar. 9, 1846. | 8-3-308 : 45-47 |
| McCutchen, William, Jan. 25, 1847 to Sept. 1848. | 8-3-308 : 48-51 |
| McRoberts, Sam, Mar. 14, 1841 | 8-3-308 : 52 |
| Meeks, James, Sept. 10, 1848. | 8-3-308 : 53 |
| Miller, Hiram O., Jan. 23, 1851. | 8-3-308 : 54 |
| Peckman, R.F., May 20, 1850. | 8-3-308 : 55 |
| Pico, Antonio, Oct. 23, 1849. | 8-3-308 : 56 |
| Preston, King and Co., Feb. 18, 1851. | 8-3-308 : 57 |
| Reed, "Mother" Martha, Oct. 22, 1838. | 8-3-308 : 58 |
| Reed, Patty, Nov. 11, 1854. | 8-3-308 : 59 |
| Ruckel, J.L., Mar. 18, 1848. | 8-3-308 : 60 |
| Sinclair, John, Jun 23, 1847 to Apr. 5, 1848. | 8-3-308 : 61-64 |
| Skinner, Mark, Feb. 13, 1845. | 8-3-308 : 65 |
| Sutter, John, Apr. 7, 1847. | 8-3-308 : 66 |
| Stowell, L., Oct. 5, 1850. | 8-3-308 : 67 |
| Waldo, G. B., Apr. 19, 1846. | 8-3-308 : 68 |
| Waldo, G. B., Apr. 19, 1846 (handwritten copy). | 8-3-308 : 69 |
| Weber, Charles, Jan. 25, 1847. | 8-3-308 : 70 |
| Weber, Charles, Jan. 26, 1847 (handwritten copy). | 8-3-308 : 71 |
| Winchester, J., Apr. 1, 1851 to Aug. 8, 1851 (includes one handwritten copy). | 8-3-308 : 72-75 |
| Woodworth, J. E., June 11, 1847. | 8-3-308 : 76 |
| Zwister, James, Sept. 20, 1857. | 8-3-308 : 77 |
| Unknown, July 25, 1850. | 8-3-308 : 78 |

Outgoing correspondence from James Frazier Reed, June 10, 1845 to Aug. 27, 1864 and undated.

8-4-308 : 79-95

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| Conness, John, Jan. 24, 1866. | 8-4-308 : 79 |
| Dye, Mr., June 30, 1847. | 8-4-308 : 80 |
| Dye, Mr., June 30, 1847 (handwritten copy). | 8-4-308 : 81 |
| House Committee on Public Buildings, Jan 16, 1850 (copies) | 8-4-308 : 82-83 |
| Keyes, James W., Aug. 27, 1864. | 8-4-308 : 84 |
| Lippincott, Crosby and Delaquin, January 26, 1850. | 8-4-308 : 85 |
| Reed, Margaret, Sept. 20, 1849 to July 6, 1859. | 8-4-308 : 86-88 |
| Shields, Hon. James, June 10, 1845. | 8-4-308 : 89 |
| Shields, General, Jan. 12, 1852. | 8-4-308 : 90 |
| "To whom it may concern," Jan. 20, 1847 . | 8-4-308 : 91 |
| "To whom it may concern," Jan. 20, 1847 (handwritten copy). | 8-4-308 : 92 |
| Vallejo, M. G., Jan. 12, 1848. | 8-4-308 : 93 |
| Incomplete letter possibly in handwriting of James Reed, 1847. | 8-4-308 : 94 |
| Scrap of paper with the words "J.F. Reed's letter to Capt. Sutter after the battle was over Jan. 2, 1847." | 8-4-308 : 95 |

Collected Correspondence, Nov. 1, 1831 to Sept. 8, 1951 and undated.

8-4-308 : 96-137

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|---|------------------|
| Barret, Edward to Carroll D. Hall, Feb. 4, 1947. | 8-4-308 :96 |
| Breen, Patrick to "Mr. Marshall," Feb. 9, 1848. | 8-4-308 :97 |
| Breese, Sidney to "My Dear" (James Reed?), Feb. 20, 1846. | 8-4-308 :98 |
| California Dept of Justice Division of Criminal Identification to Carroll D. Hall, Feb. 13, 1947. | 8-4-308 :99 |
| Datsere(?), John B. to "Mr. Reed", Mar. 25, 1840. | 8-4-308 :100 |
| Donner, Jacob to Charles Berger, Nov 11, 1846 (copy). | 8-4-308 :101 |
| Donner, Jacob to Milt Elliot, 1846. | 8-4-308 :102 |
| Douglas, J.A. and Robert Smith to Hon. Wm. L. Marcy, June 10, 1845 (copies). | 8-4-308 :103 |
| Graves, Florence to Carroll D. Hall, Sept. 8, 1951. | 8-4-308 :104 |
| Hook, S.E., to ?, Mar 6, 1853. | 8-4-308 :105 |
| Kern, E.M, to Greenwood, undated. | 8-4-308 :106 |
| Kern, E.M, to Keyser undated. | 8-4-308 :107 |
| Keyes, C. A. to to Robert Keyes, June 28, 1849 and Dec. 9, 1849., | 8-4-308 :108-109 |
| Larkin, Thomas to Mr. Wisman, July 6, 1847 (handwritten copy). | 8-4-308 :110 |
| Matthews, T. V., to C. D. Hall, Aug. 23, 1945. | 8-4-308 :111 |
| Morgan, Dale L., to Carroll D. Hall, June 3, 1949 to May 3, 1951. | 8-4-308 :112-115 |

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| Nelson, Mary L. to Loyd C. Backento, Nov. 1, 1831. Oversized item moved to Map Drawer 15-16, Cabinet E-4. | 8-4-308 :116 |
| Paden, Irene to Carroll D. Hall, Oct. 4, 1947 and July 16, 1947. | 8-4-308 :117-118 |
| Patterson, Wm. F., to Wm. M. Patterson, Aug. 20, 1863. | 8-4-308 :119 |
| Pickett, Chas. E. to Judge Ried, July 26, 1851 (handwritten copy). | 8-4-308 :120 |
| Reed, James F. II to Postmaster of Santa Cruz, Mar. 18, 1901. | 8-4-308 :121 |
| Reed, Virginia to "her cousins in Springfield," May 16, 1847 (copy) plus commentary by unknown analyst. | 8-4-308 :122 |
| Ryker, H. C. to Carroll D. Hall, Nov. 19, 1948 to Feb. 24, 1950. | 8-4-308 :123-128 |
| Stanton, Almema to Charles Statnton, Oct. 1845. Oversized item moved to Map Drawer 15-16, Cabinet E-4. | 8-4-308 :129 |
| Stanton, C.T., to Messrs Donner, Dec. 9, 1846. | 8-4-308 :130 |
| Stewart, George R. to Carroll D. Hall, Aug. 24, 1949. | 8-4-308 :131 |
| Various citizens to R.F. Stockton, Jan. 1847. | 8-4-308 :132 |
| Waldo, G.B. to Giles Waldo, Apr. 19, 1846. | 8-4-308 :133 |
| Woodworth, J. C. to "Fallon," Nov. 1, 1847. | 8-4-308 :134 |
| Unknown to Eliza Donner Houghton, 1912. | 8-4-308 :135 |
| Unknown to "Editor," undated. | 8-4-308 :136 |
| Unknown, a poem, undated. | 8-4-308 :137 |

Series 2. Legal Documents, 1839-1874 and undated. 2 boxes, 84 folders.

This series contains agreements, deeds, estate inventories, indentures, petitions, and miscellaneous other legal or public documents such as depositions, powers of attorney, marriage certificates, appointments, city council minutes, summons, and letters of administration or guardianship. This series also includes the Last Will and Testament of James Frazier Reed, including his handwritten draft. Most of the material in this series pertains to the activities of Reed during and after the Donner tragedy or with the disposition of the estates of those lost to the tragedy. Others represented in this series include Milt Elliot, R.F. Stockton, George and Jacob Donner, Margaret Reed, Patty Reed Lewis, R.C. Keyes, and Charles Weber. Deeds and titles are generally concerned with Reed properties in or around San Jose California. Petitions may concern requests for public lands or appeals to local magistrates for actions or compensation. This series includes a small number of undated handwritten transcriptions of original documents done by Edwin Sherman c.1900, and photocopies arranged by the date of the originals.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| Agreements, various, Oct 11, 1843 to Sep 18, 1851. | 8-5-308 : 1-6 |
| Deeds and titles, Aug 1, 1847 to Mar 24, 1866 and undated. | 8-5-308 : 7-19 |
| Estate inventories and dispositions, Aug 26, 1846 to Jan 5, 1858 and undated. | 8-5-308 : 20-36 |

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|--|-----------------|
| Indentures, Jan 19, 1848 to 1865 and undated. | 8-6-308 : 1-12 |
| Petitions, May 18, 1839 to Feb 15, 1849 and undated. | 8-6-308 : 13-27 |
| Miscellaneous legal documents, Apr 15, 1846 to Aug 21, 1874 and undated. | 8-6-308 : 27-48 |

Series 3. Financial Documents, 1840-1875 and undated. 2 boxes, 82 folders.

This series contains photocopies, ledgers, receipts, invoices, stock certificates and various business papers including promissory notes, bills of sale, a prospectus, freight bills, and payroll requests. The ledgers describe real estate transactions and the sales and purchases of household goods and livestock. The bulk of the receipts describe the acquisition of provisions and supplies for the effort to rescue the emigrants trapped in the mountains during February, 1847, but also in this group are collected items not related to the Donner Party such as invoices requesting compensation to some of the police officers who assisted Reed in his role as Sheriff of the Pueblo San Jose in 1850. The stock certificates are primarily for the Miller Gold and Silver Mining Company, the Black Prince Gold and Silver Mining Company, and the Reed Gold and Silver Mining Company, ultimately unsuccessful businesses James F. Reed shared with Thomas K. Reed, Hiram O. Miller, and Jacob K. Miller. This series includes a small number of undated handwritten transcriptions of original documents done by Edwin Sherman c.1900.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|--|---------------------|
| Ledgers, Sep 1849 to Feb 27, 1852 and undated. | 8-7-308 : 1-5 |
| Receipts and Invoices, Oct 29, 1846 to Jun 1851 and undated. | 8-7-308 : 6-41 |
| Stock Certificates, Jan 18, 1864 to Mar 24, 1864 and undated. | 8-8-308 : 1-15 |
| Various business papers, Mar 25, 1840 to Jun 21, 1875 and undated. | 8-8-308 : 16-41 |

Series 4. Masonic Documents, 1840-1939 and undated. 1 box, 14 folders.

This small series contains certificates, correspondence, announcements, notes, and proclamations, regarding James Frazier Reed's membership in the Springfield, IL Masonic Lodge #4 and spans the period 1840-1939. This series includes handwritten transcriptions of original documents done by Edwin Sherman, c.1900.

This series is arranged chronologically.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| By-Laws of Springfield, IL Masonic Lodge #4, 1840. | 8-9-308 : 1 |
| Meeting announcements, May 3, 1845 to Mar. 14, 1846. | 8-9-308 : 2-5 |
| Masonic certificate establishing James F. Reed as a loyal and regular member of the Springfield Masonic Lodge, Apr. 10, 1846. | 8-9-308 : 6 |
| Masonic certificate stating that James F. Reed was "duly raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason," Apr. 15, 1846. | 8-9-308 : 7 |
| Notice, H.G. Melone, High Priest of Masonic Order, to James Reed, July 15, 1856. | 8-9-308 : 8 |

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|---|--------------|
| Membership log for James F. Reed in the Masonic Veterans Association, c. 1910. | 8-9-308 : 9 |
| W.C. Arbuckle to Martha Jane Lewis regarding James Reed's Masonic regalia, Sept. 12, 1934. | 8-9-308 : 10 |
| Mark A. Sawrie to Martha Jane Lewis regarding James Reed's Masonic regalia, Oct. 14, 1939. | 8-9-308 : 11 |
| Handwritten copies of Masonic documents by E.A. Sherman, undated. | 8-9-308 : 12 |
| Typed extract of the 59th Annual Convocation of the Island Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in re James Reed, undated. | 8-9-308 : 13 |
| Note, author unknown, referring to James F. Reed as the first master mason to carry his credentials to California, undated. | 8-9-308 : 14 |

Series 5. Pension Agent's Documents, c.1830-1846 and undated. 1 box, 19 folders.

This small series contains correspondence, reports, and ledgers concerning James Frazier Reed's appointment and duties as the agent for U.S. Pensions for the State of Illinois during the brief period from his appointment to the position in December 1845 to his resignation in the spring of 1846. Correspondents in this series include J. L. Edwards, Illinois Commissioner of Pensions, U.S. Senator Sidney Breese, Secretary of War, W. L. Marcy, and Robert Smith, U.S. Representative from Illinois.

This series is arranged chronologically.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| Blank semi-annual report for United States Pension Agency, c. 1830. | 8-10-308 : 1 |
| Correspondence, Dec 18, 1844 to Feb 27, 1845 | 8-10-308 : 2-5 |
| Estimate of funds needed, Sep 1845. | 8-10-308 : 6 |
| Correspondence, Jul 30, 1845 to Apr 15, 1846. | 8-10-308 : 7-17 |
| Ledgers, Mar 31, 1846 and Apr 15, 1846. | 8-10-308 : 18-19 |

Series 6. Recollections, notes, journals and scrapbooks. 1846-1946 and undated. 1 box, 46 folders.

This series contains recollections, diaries, and notebooks about the Donner Party tragedy and the rescue efforts. The bulk of this series is comprised of undated pages with unknown authors or transcribers. Known authors include original Donner Party members and rescuers Martha J. Lewis, James F. Reed, Eliza Donner Houghton, William McCutchen, and M.D. Ritchie. The diary of Hiram O. Miller was completed by James Reed after Miller departed the party in early July, 1846. Reed recorded the party's travels until October 4, when he also departed the party. Also in this series are brief biographies of Reed, lists of Donner Party members and survivors, journals and scrapbooks and handwritten notes and jottings regarding the efforts to rescue the Party and the supplies and provisions needed.

Dated items are arranged chronologically. Undated items are arranged alphabetically by material type and have been placed at the end of this series.

| Description | Box : Folder |
|---|---------------------|
| Diary of Hiram O. Miller and James Reed, Apr 26 to Oct 4, 1846. Photocopies. Original item moved to Box 8-17-308. | 8-11-308 : 1 |
| "Letter of Mrs. George Donner," from the Springfield, Illinois Journal, Jul 23, 1846, typescript of, source unknown. | 8-11-308 : 2 |
| Original note by Wm. Foster on small scrap of paper, Nov 1, 1846 | 8-11-308 : 3 |
| "Copy of a Journal Kept By a Suffering Immigrant on the California Mountains from October 31, 1846 to March, 1847," by Geo. McKinsty, typescript, undated. | 8-11-308 : 4 |
| Original note by Jacob Donner on small scrap of paper, Nov 20, 1846. | 8-11-308 : 5 |
| Notes kept by M.D. Ritchie on the expedition to rescue the Donner Party, Feb 5, 1847 | 8-11-308 : 6 |
| James Reed's journal of the rescue expedition of Feb-Mar 1847, original manuscript, 1847, with handwritten copy, undated. | 8-11-308 : 7 |
| "List of the names of emigrants which were brought over the mountains in distress and are transferred to Capt. Sutter [to attend to them]," signed by J. F. Reed, 1847. | 8-11-308 : 8 |
| "Recollections of Mary Warren Breckenridge," by Mary Murphy, typescript, 1859. | 8-11-308 : 9 |
| Statements by James Reed and Wm. McCutchen," written in response to an article published in the Pacific Rural Press, Jan 21, 1871, typescripts. | 8-11-308 : 10 |
| Handwritten transcription of account of "Starved Camp" by James Reed, source unknown, undated. 2 copies. | 8-11-308 : 11 |
| Account of a mining expedition in 1862, draft manuscript, author unknown, c.1890s. | 8-11-308 : 12 |
| Poem about the Pacific Ocean, Nov 7, 1899, source unknown, author unknown | 8-11-308 : 13 |
| Notebook of Patty Reed Lewis, 1909. Oversized item. Moved to Box 8-136-308. | 8-11-308 : 14 |
| Manuscript, "The Expedition to the Donner Party and its Tragic Fate, [by] Eliza Poor Donner Houghton," draft manuscript, source unknown, Nov, 1911. | 8-11-308 : 15 |
| Notebook of Patty Reed Lewis, 1912. Oversized item. Moved to Box 8-136-308. | 8-11-308 : 16 |
| Recollections of Patty Reed, original manuscript, Feb 1, 1915. | 8-11-308 : 17 |
| Recollections of Patty Reed, original manuscript, draft(?) Feb 1, 1915. | 8-11-308 : 18 |
| Note, "Reed-Donner Party Relics loaned to S. J. Fiesta," source unknown, Apr 26, 1927. | 8-11-308 : 19 |
| Transcription of excerpt from notebook of Patty Reed Lewis, Jan, 1946 | 8-11-308 : 20 |
| Manuscript, biographical material on James Reed and Patty Reed | 8-11-308 : 21 |

Lewis, sources unknown, undated.

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Manuscript, "From the Recollections of Little Patty Reed," addressed to the Native Sons of the Golden West, , undated. | 8-11-308 : 22 |
| Manuscript, "Inventory of provisions and supplies...for the rescue of the people in the California Mountains...to J. F. Reed," undated. | 8-11-308 : 23 |
| Manuscript, "List of Police," source unknown, undated. | 8-11-308 : 24 |
| Manuscript, account of the Donner Party as related by Patty Reed Lewis, source unknown, undated. | 8-11-308 : 25 |
| Manuscript, biography of Donner Party members, by Geo. McKinstry, manuscript, undated. | 8-11-308 : 26 |
| Manuscript, copy of James Reed's account of Donner Party, source unknown, undated. Copy 1 of 2. | 8-11-308 : 27 |
| Manuscript, copy of James Reed's account of Donner Party, source unknown, undated. Copy 2 of 2. | 8-11-308 : 28 |
| Manuscript, copy of Wm. McCutchen's account of rescue expedition, undated. | 8-11-308 : 29 |
| Manuscript, list of members of Donner Party who died, source unknown, undated. | 8-11-308 : 30 |
| Manuscript, notes and criticisms regarding an unnamed account of the Donner tragedy, author unknown, undated. | 8-11-308 : 31 |
| Manuscript, partial accounts of Donner Party tragedy, source unknown, undated. 1 of 2. | 8-11-308 : 32 |
| Manuscript, partial accounts of Donner Party tragedy, source unknown, undated. 2 of 2. | 8-11-308 : 33 |
| Manuscript, recollections of Patty Reed, undated. | 8-11-308 : 34 |
| Manuscript, transcribed copy of statements by Patty Reed Lewis concerning the dispute between James Reed and John Snyder, source unknown, undated. | 8-11-308 : 35 |
| Scrapbook of clippings collected by Patty Reed, undated. Includes original manuscript of "Dolly's Little History." Oversized item moved to Box 8-17-308. | 8-11-308 : 36 |
| Scrapbook of clippings source unknown, undated. Oversized item moved to Box 8-17-308. | 8-11-308 : 37 |
| Scrapbook of clippings, "The Tragedy of Donner Lake, by Evelyn Wells," undated. Oversized item moved to Box 8-17-308. | 8-11-308 : 38 |
| Typescript "In the Beginning," describing early California history through the Gold Rush with description of the Reed family's travels, source unknown, undated. | 8-11-308 : 39 |
| Typescript, "Dolly's Little History, by Martha Jane Lewis" undated. | 8-11-308 : 40 |
| Typescript, James Reed's account of Donner Party, source unknown, undated. | 8-11-308 : 41 |
| Various notes and jottings | 8-11-308 : 42-46 |

Series 7. Ephemera and News Clippings, 1841-1905 and undated. 1 box, 42 folders.

This series contains miscellaneous printed items including invitations, certificates, programs, greeting cards, flyers, business and calling cards, souvenir ribbons, and news clippings collected by Martha J. Lewis.

This series is arranged chronologically.

Description

Box : Folder

Ephemera, Mar 19, 1841 to Jan 25, 1908 and undated.

8-12-308 : 1-35

News clippings, Oct 24, 1846 to Aug 21, 1857.

8-13-308 : 1-42

Series 8. Books and Booklets, 1829-1919 and undated. 1 box, 18 folders.

This series contains books and booklets published between 1829 and 1919. The books are in very poor condition and have been relocated for preservation purposes.

This series is arranged alphabetically by title with books preceding booklets.

Description

Box : Folder

Book, Bible presented to Patty Reed in 1853 by a friend. Rare Book Room, Kyburz Annex, Sutter's Fort.

8-14-308 : 1

Book, *Comstock's Philosophy*, 1854. Moved to Rare Book Room, Kyburz Annex, Sutter's Fort..

8-14-308 : 2

Book, *Elements of Drawing*, 1849. Stored at the State Museum Resource Center.

8-14-308 : 3

Book, *English Grammar in Familiar Lectures*, by Samuel Kirkham, 1845. Stored at the State Museum Resource Center.

8-14-308 : 4

Book, *English Language Grammar*, 1853. Moved to Rare Book Room, Kyburz Annex, Sutter's Fort.

8-14-308 : 5

Book, *Flock of Sheep, The* undated. Stored at the State Museum Resource Center.

8-14-308 : 6

Book, *Gradual Lessons in Grammar*, by David Tower, 1848. Moved to Rare Book Room, Kyburz Annex, Sutter's Fort.

8-14-308 : 7

Book, *Key to Smith's Practical and Mental Arithmetic*, by Roswell Smith, 1847. Moved to Rare Book Room, Kyburz Annex, Sutter's Fort.

8-14-308 : 8

Book, *Oregon and California in 1848, Vol. 1*, by J. Thornton, 1849. Moved to Rare Book Room, Kyburz Annex, Sutter's Fort.

8-14-308 : 9

Book, *Speller and Definer, The ; Classbook No. 2,* by E. Hazen, 1829. Moved to Rare Book Room, Kyburz Annex, Sutter's Fort.

8-14-308 : 10

Book, *Two Dolls, The*, 1837. Stored at the State Museum Resource Center.

8-14-308 : 11

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|---|---------------|
| Booklet, <i>American Home Dictionary</i> , undated. | 8-14-308 : 12 |
| Booklet, <i>Constitution and By-Laws of the Western Association of California Pioneers</i> , 1890. | 8-14-308 : 13 |
| Booklet, <i>Constitution of the State of California</i> , printed at the office of the Alta California, 1849. | 8-14-308 : 14 |
| Booklet, <i>Diary of Patrick Breen of the Donner Party</i> , Frederick Teggert, ed. 1910. | 8-14-308 : 15 |
| Booklet, <i>Grand Excursion to California of the Society of Pioneers of New England</i> , 1890. | 8-14-308 : 16 |
| Booklet, <i>Progression of Slavery in the United States, The</i> , by George Weston, 1860. | 8-14-308 : 17 |
| Magazine, <i>Grizzly Bear Magazine</i> , with inscription, Dec 1919. | 8-14-308 : 18 |

Series 9. Photographic Material. c.1879, 1949 and undated.

This series is primarily comprised of undated photographic prints, tintypes, and daguerreotypes of Reed, Breen, and Donner family members. Also in this series are photographs of Donner artifacts and documents, and photographs of selected locations along the Donner Party route through Utah and Nevada that are dated June, 1949.

This series is arranged alphabetically by subject.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| Devil's Gate, Utah, photographic print, undated. | 8-15-308 : 1 |
| Eddy, Eleanor, photographic print of drawing, undated. | 8-15-308 : 2 |
| Eddy, William, photographic print of drawing, undated. | 8-15-308 : 3 |
| Foundation of stone house, photographic print, Jun 1949. | 8-15-308 : 4 |
| Gravelly Ford on the Humbolt, photographic print, Jun, 1949. | 8-15-308 : 5 |
| Graves at Gravelly Ford, photographic print, Jun, 1949. | 8-15-308 : 6 |
| Houghton, Eliza Donner, and Wilder, Francis Donner, with three unidentified people, photographic print plus copy, undated. | 8-15-308 : 7 |
| Humbolt River, panoramic composite photographic print, Oct 1949. | 8-15-308 : 8 |
| James Reed's map from Sutter's Fort to stranded emigrants, photographic print of, 1847. Original item is located in Map Drawer 1314, Cabinet E-4. | 8-15-308 : 9 |
| Keyes, James W. and Lydia, tintype, copy only, undated. Original item moved to Box 8-266-308. | 8-15-308 : 10 |
| Keyes, Sarah, framed photograph, copies only, undated. Original item moved to Box 17-1-308. | 8-15-308 : 11 |
| Lewis, Frank and Patty Reed, tintype plus copy, undated. | 8-15-308 : 12 |
| Lewis, Patty Reed with Eliza Donner Houghton, Francis Donner Wilder, and Governor Stephens at the Pioneer Monument at Donner | 8-15-308 : 13 |

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|--|---------------|
| Lake, photographic print plus copies, c.1920. | |
| Lewis, Patty Reed with Eliza Donner Houghton, Francis Donner Wilder, and Governor Stephens at the Pioneer Monument at Donner Lake, photographic print plus copies, c.1920. | 8-15-308 : 14 |
| Lewis, Patty Reed with three unidentified males at the Pioneer Monument at Donner Lake, photographic print plus copy, c.1920. | 8-15-308 : 15 |
| Lewis, Patty Reed, and others, photographic print with annotations and some identifications on back, undated. | 8-15-308 : 16 |
| McGlashan, C.F., photographic print, c.1879. | 8-15-308 : 17 |
| Muster roll of Abraham Lincoln's Company in Black Hawk War of 1832, photographic print of document showing J.F. Reed's name, undated. | 8-15-308 : 18 |
| Patty Reed's doll and mittens, photographic print of on cardboard, undated. | 8-15-308 : 19 |
| Patty Reed's doll, photographic prints of (2), undated. | 8-15-308 : 20 |
| Reed family outside adobe home in San Jose, Ca., daguerreotype, copies only, undated. Original item moved to Box 1-10-308. | 8-15-308 : 21 |
| Reed, James F. and Margaret, photographic print mounted on cardboard plus copies, undated. | 8-15-308 : 22 |
| Reed, James F., photographic print mounted on cardboard, undated. Copies only. Original item moved to Box 8-266-308. | 8-15-308 : 23 |
| Reed, Margaret, ambrotype, undated. Copies only. Original item moved to Box 8-266-308. | 8-15-308 : 24 |
| Reed, Patty, tintype, undated. Copies only. Original item moved to Box 8-266-308. | 8-15-308 : 25 |
| Treaty Hill, Nevada, photographic print, Jun 1949. | 8-15-308 : 26 |

Series 10 . Separated Items, 5 boxes.

This series consists of oversize or fragile material that was removed from the collection and filed separately in appropriate boxes. Separated material is located in boxes 1-10-308, 8-17-308, 8-136-308, 8-266-308 and 17-1-308.



Guide to The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Collection

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park

Sacramento, California

Contact Information:

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park
2701 L Street
Sacramento, CA 95816
Phone: (916) 323-8112
Fax: (916) 442-8613

Processed by:

Larry Bishop, CSU Sacramento.

Date Completed:

2005

Encoded by:

Larry Bishop

Descriptive Summary

Title

Guide to the Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Collection

Dates

1925-1928

Collection number

Consult repository

Collector

Sutter's Fort State Historical Park

Extent

3.4 cubic feet in 17 boxes

Repository

This collection resides at Sutter's Fort State Historical Park, Sacramento, California.

Abstract

This collection contains the records of Charles E. Davis (d.1933), an amateur explorer, naturalist and historian who retraced the Donner Party's route in the years 1927 and 1928. Davis took more than one thousand photographs during the project, kept a journal of the project, and corresponded with Harry Peterson, the curator of Sutter's Fort throughout. The Charles E. Davis material was donated to the Fort by him at the project's conclusion. Peterson also documented Davis' trip by collecting and assembling scrapbooks, notes, maps, clippings, and correspondence, which are also included in this collection.

Administrative Information

Access

This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

[item] the Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Collection, Sutter's Fort State Historic Park, California State Parks, Sacramento, California.

Related materials

The collection described in this finding aid represents those materials that are archival in nature and specifically assembled to create this collection. Researchers may wish to consult *The Guide to the Sutter's Fort Collection of Donner Party Material* at Sutter's Fort State Historic Park for other documents and artifacts related to the Donner Party.

Acquisition Information

This bulk of this collection was donated to Sutter's Fort by Charles E. Davis in 1927. Additional material supplementing the donation was assembled in 1927-28 by Harry C. Peterson at Sutter's Fort

Processing History

This collection was processed by Larry Bishop, June 2005. The finding aid was written by and encoded by Larry Bishop.

Biographical Notes

Charles E. Davis was born into a wealthy Massachusetts family, but as a young man signed on as an ordinary seaman with an Atlantic fishing fleet. By the time he was eighteen, he had won the rating of captain, a title he kept until his death in 1933. In 1898 he joined the Alaska gold stampede and traveled to the Klondike, though he apparently was no great success as a miner. Afterwards he spent time as an amateur naturalist and explorer, collecting specimens and guiding explorations throughout the world. He had fished from Alaska to the Caribbean, explored unknown regions of Siberia, traveled up the Amazon, collected 3000 specimens of sea life, captured elephant seals, and spent several years exploring the desert trails of America's Southwest. At the time of the Overland Trail project, Davis was retired and living on Mullet Island on the Salton Sea about ten miles northwest of Calipatria, California. Sutter's Fort Curator Harry Peterson described him as a "peculiarly shy individual...adverse to contact with the public [and] more at home in the wilderness." Davis spent his own money and time recreating the Donner Party's route from Independence Missouri to Sacramento, California believing that Sutter's Fort, and the people who traveled there on the overland trails represented the indomitable spirit of the pioneer better than anything else in the world.

Harry C. Peterson (1876-1941) was the first curator at Sutter's Fort, serving in that capacity from 1926 until his death. In 1899, at the age of twenty-three, he was named Curator of the Stanford University Art Museum and worked there until 1917, the year he was drafted into the wireless service of the U.S. Army, where he served until 1918. After this he worked as a fire lookout for Southern Pacific Railroad. In 1920 he was hired as head of Field Research for the California State Library where he worked until 1925, when California Governor Richardson signed legislation to fund the reorganization and preservation of the collections at Sutter's Fort. In 1926 Peterson was named curator of the Fort. He envisioned the Fort as a living museum that would attract visitors from around the world. Sutter's Fort, under Peterson's guidance and vision formed the rudimentary beginnings of the not yet created California State Parks system.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

This collection contains material collected by Charles E. Davis and Harry Peterson between 1925 and 1928. More than one thousand photographs that Davis took during the project are included in this collection, plus his journal of the project, annotated maps, notes, jottings and correspondence with Peterson. Peterson also documented Davis' trip by collecting and assembling scrapbooks, notes, maps, clippings, and correspondence, which are included in this collection. Also in this collection is a small amount of biographical material about Davis' life as a sea captain, fisherman, explorer and naturalist, and photographs of his home and property on Mullet Island in the Salton Sea in Southern California, and also plans, proposals, and clippings regarding a wagon train reenactment planned for the following year (1929).

This collection has been arranged into the following series:

Series 1. Correspondence

Series 2. Charles Davis' Journals, Maps, and various items

Series 3. Harry Peterson's Notes, Clippings and Scrapbooks

Series 4. Charles E. Davis Biographical Material

Series 5. Photographs

Series 6. Separated Items

Collection Contents

Series 1. Correspondence, July 1927 to October 1928. 1 box, 8 folders.

This series contains original and photocopied letters, telegrams, postcards and notes created during the period from June 1927 to October 1928. The majority of the correspondence was written between Charles Davis and Harry Peterson as Davis traveled the Reed-Donner route. Much of the outgoing correspondence from Peterson consists of letters of introduction on behalf of Davis addressed to historians, curators, and publishers.

This sub series is arranged chronologically.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| Charles Davis to Harry Peterson, 14 letters, Jun 23, 1927 to Dec 8, 1927 and undated. | 8-16-308 : 1 |
| Charles Davis to Harry Peterson, 14 letters, Mar 10, 1928 to Oct 9, 1928. | 8-16-308 : 2 |
| Charles Davis to Harry Peterson, 5 letters, undated. | 8-16-308 : 3 |
| Harry Peterson to Charles Davis, 11 letters, Jun 20, 1927 to Jul 9, 1928 and undated. | 8-16-308 : 4 |
| Incoming to Charles Davis, 7 letters, Oct 22, 1927 to Sep 11, 1928. | 8-16-308 : 5 |
| Incoming to Harry Peterson, 23 letters, Jun 24, 1927 to Jun 27, 1928. | 8-16-308 : 6 |
| Outgoing from Charles Davis, 6 letter, Nov 23, 1927 to May 1, 1928. | 8-16-308 : 7 |
| Outgoing from Harry Peterson, 28 letters, Jun 19, 1927 to Apr 30, 1928. | 8-16-308 : 8 |

Series 2. Charles Davis' Journals, Maps, and various items, c.1927-1928. 1 box, 6 folders.

This sub series contains maps annotated, used or drawn by Davis during his trip, bound typescripts of his journal of the trip, and a book.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|--|---------------------|
| Book, Charles Davis' annotated copy of <i>History of the Donner Party</i> by C.F. McGlashan, 1922. | 8-18-308 : 1 |
| Bound typescript, <i>Compilation from Notes of Capt. Chas E. Davis on His Trip Through Nevada...Re-Locating the old Reed-Donner Trail, Aug 21 to Oct 20 1927, Nov 1927.</i> Copy 1 of 2. | 8-18-308 : 2 |
| Bound typescript, <i>Compilation from Notes of Capt. Chas E. Davis on His Trip Through Nevada...Re-Locating the old Reed-Donner Trail, Aug 21 to Oct 20 1927, Nov 1927.</i> Copy 2 of 2. | 8-18-308 : 3 |
| Map, hand-drawn and annotated "Reed-Donner Route 1846," showing route in May and June 1846 along Kansas and Blue Rivers. Undated. | 8-18-308 : 4 |
| Map, photo static copies from "Journal of Mr. Edward Kern, 1845," undated. Oversized item moved to Box 17-35-308. | 8-18-308 : 5 |

Map, annotated, Utah State Highway Association, c 1927. Oversized item moved to Box 17-35-308. 8-18-308 : 6

Series 3. Harry Peterson's Notes, Clippings and Scrapbooks, 1925-1928. 1 box 20 folders.

This sub series contains the notes, jottings and correspondence that Harry Peterson collected during Davis' explorations into the Reed-Donner trail. Most of the material is undated and arranged in no specific order. This sub series also contains 15 oversized scrapbooks that Peterson assembled to document Davis' trip. They contain notes, maps, ephemera, correspondence and miscellaneous items. The scrapbooks themselves have been moved to box 32-7-308 due to their size, but scans and digital photographs of their contents are contained in this series. Also in this group is a diary in Peterson's handwriting titled "Last Trip" detailing a trip from Sacramento to Kansas City and back from May 1 to September 19, 1928.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|--|---------------------|
| Project Notes, undated. | 8-19-308 : 1-2 |
| Proposals and notes regarding Wagon Train reenactment, undated. | 8-19-308 : 3 |
| Diary, "Last Trip," May-Sep 1928. | 8-19-308 : 4 |
| News clippings about the Reed-Donner project, May 3, 1925 to Aug 14, 1928. | 8-19-308 : 5 |
| Scrapbooks numbered 1 to 15, 1927. | 8-19-308 : 6-20 |

Series 4. Charles E. Davis Biographical Material, 1915 to 1927 and undated. 1 box, 4 folders.

This sub series contains notes, clippings, business cards, personal remembrances, and photos regarding the life of Charles E. Davis. Most of the items in this group describe Davis' life before the Reed-Donner project and provide information on his activities as a fisherman, explorer, and naturalist and on his home on Mullet Island in the Salton Sea. A hand-drawn map of the area is also in this group. Photos in this sub series show Davis' Mullet Island home, local wildlife there, and an oversized photograph of Davis with Harry Peterson taken at Sutter's Fort in the 1920s.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Box : Folder</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| Biographical notes, clippings, and ephemera, 1915 to 1927 and undated. | 8-104-308 : 1-2 |
| Hand-drawn map of the Salton Sea, undated. Oversized item moved to 17-35-308. | 8-104-308 : 3 |
| Photographs of Davis, Mullet Island and wildlife, 16 prints, undated. | 8-104-308 : 4 |
| Photo of Davis with Harry Peterson at Sutter's Fort, c.1927. Oversized item moved to 17-35-308. | 8-104-308 : 5 |

Series 5. Photographs, c.1927.

This sub series contains the 1,087 photographic prints from Davis' Reed-Donner Project. The photographs show much of the Western desert before the Interstate Highway system and urban and suburban growth had destroyed many landmarks. Each print is individually numbered and described in Davis' own words on individual index cards corresponding to each picture. The index cards are in Box 5-11-308, along with a typed index, and the numbered photographic prints are in Boxes 4-1-308 through 4-11-308.

Series 6. Separated Items

This series contains oversized items separated from this collection and placed in Boxes 17-5-308 and 32-7-308.

Appendix A
Index to the Davis Collection photographs

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

This collection of photographs documents Charles E. Davis' efforts in 1927 trace the Donner Party's route from Independence, Missouri to Sacramento, California. Davis, an amateur historian in his later years, was born into a wealthy Massachusetts family, but as a young man signed on as an ordinary seaman with an Atlantic fishing fleet. By the time he was eighteen, he had won the rating of captain, a title he kept until his death in 1933. In 1898 he joined the Alaska gold stampede and traveled to the Klondike, though he apparently was no great success as a miner. Afterwards he spent time as a naturalist and explorer, collecting specimens and guiding explorations throughout the world. He had fished from Alaska to the Caribbean, explored unknown regions of Siberia, traveled up the Amazon, collected 3000 specimens of sea life, captured elephant seals, and spent several years exploring the desert trails of America's Southwest. At the time of the Overland Trail project, Davis was retired and living on Mullet Island on the Salton Sea about ten miles northwest of Calipatria, California. Sutter's Fort Curator Harry Peterson described him as a "peculiarly shy individual...adverse to contact with the public [and] more at home in the wilderness."

Davis spent his own money and time recreating the Donner Party's route from Independence Missouri to Sacramento, California believing that Sutter's Fort and the people who traveled there on the overland trails represented the indomitable spirit of pioneer better than anything else in the world. He recorded his expedition in a journal through regular correspondence with Harry C. Peterson, the curator at the Fort. This collection's photographs, which number more than a thousand, may be of particular interest to researchers interested in the Interstate Highway system and the development modern roadways in the western states. Davis' photos show much of the western trails they appeared before the highways and the resulting communities covered them over. The index on the following pages contains Davis' descriptions of each of the 1087 photos in this collection, transcribed from the index cards on which he recorded them.

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Index Card 1 | What gave me the inspiration to see justice done, by back trailing this wonderful James Reed and other heroes of party. |
| Index Card 2 | Donner Monument, Donner Lake California |
| Index Card 3 | Southerly side of Donner Monument |
| Index Card 4 | Near Donner Monument, from wood. |
| Index Card 5 | Gen. McGlashon pointing out Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 6 | and my |
| Index Card 7 | Van Vordon Lake, Frozen over, Summit Valley |
| Index Card 8 | Van Vordon Lake, Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 9 | Part of one small lake, of north side from Donner Lake, Summit. |
| Index Card 10 | A lake in Summit Valley |
| Index Card 11 | Between Graves cabin and Alder Creek, over hills, where many walked, through heavy snow, and high winds too, and fro. cabins. |
| Index Card 12 | Very old stump found along old trails, over Serrias. |
| Index Card 13 | One of the possible camping places on there way down to Bear Valley, near Yuba River. |
| Index Card 14 | This vicinity could have been where party lost there fire as it fell into running water below, on there way to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 15 | South Fork of the beautiful Yuba River, where starving party crossed, on way down to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 16 | Between Alder Creek, and Donner Lake |
| Index Card 17 | Old trees found along the trail, crude out marks, clearly visible, near Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 18 | A part of an old Emer [sic] <i>emigrants</i> . Trail |
| Index Card 19 | Part of the route where Mers Donner could have trampled on her weary way between Alder Creek – Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 20 | J.H. McGlashon pointing out way up Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 21 | Showing the old Emer. Trail today, winding it way up Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 22 | my o/c |
| Index Card 23 | A chopping block, where party cut up there cattle, located near where wagons laid, near Donner Creek, Donner Monument. |
| Index Card 24 | The old trail between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. Included to neg. – print – which reads, “Two virgin trees – on high hill above Donner Lake – between Cold Stream – May 1927 – HCP |
| Index Card 25 | Ind. of old camp, on top of hill, between Alder Creek and Graves Cabin. |
| Index Card 26 | An old trail, between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 27 | Emer. Trail leading from Graves Cabin to Alder Creek. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Index Card 28 | Our arrival in Truckee, over the Yuba Pass was a cold, hear trip. (First car in this year) |
| Index Card 29 | Near top of Pass, on way to Sierra City, cold, wet, unpleasant trip, as we came from Yuma, there temperature was over 100. First car to Truckee, by way of L. Tahoe others passes were closed. |
| Index Card 30 | Showing rout between Graves Cabin and Donner Monument. |
| Index Card 31 | Route taken by party between Graves Cabin and site of Donner Monument. |
| Index Card 32 | An old Emer. Trail that passes down over hill, from Alder Creek to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 33 | Old stumps, near routes, taken by party up and back, Donner Lake to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 34 | Cribbing[sic] <i>cribbing</i> on marshy ground where Emer. Wagons were passed over, climbing over the Sierras. Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 35 | Misshapen old trees found along the old Emer. Trails, passing over the Sierras. |
| Index Card 36 | Resting Place, Many Emer. Partys [sic] <i>parties</i> stayed on this edge of small meadow ahead. Well marked trees can be seen, made by passing Emer. And lumbermen. Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 37 | On the way up Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 38 | Pretty timbered spots on way up to Summit from Donner Lake. Where partys rested. |
| Index Card 39 | The hill on way to Kelsey, where John Marchel built his tunnel. |
| Index Card 40 | Where Cold Stream leads out over meadow on way over the Serrias. |
| Index Card 41 | The Cold Stream Trail, was blocked with snow (while here and there a mark could be seen.) |
| Index Card 42 | Near top of Summit Cold Stream Trail (marry old trees still standing.) |
| Index Card 43 | On way up to Summit, Ridge near Cold Stream Emer. Trail. |
| Index Card 44 | The dividing ridge, showing the South eastern side, so impassable to Emer. Bound for Calif. With there heavy wagons. |
| Index Card 45 | An old trail followed up this high ridge, to the Summit, to the left of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 46 | An old trail, at the left of Cold Stream Trail. These rocks show marks where chains were put around these spurs to help haul wagons up and over ridge. (Today sheepman use this route). |
| Index Card 47 | The tip of Serria Ridge that stands in the way of Emer. That came to Calif. With covered wagons. (here and there hauling up wagons by block and tackle.) |
| Index Card 48 | A likely way partys came and went from Donner Lake to the Summit. |
| Index Card 49 | In the vicinity where Reed-Donner Party camped. Near Summit Lakes. |
| Index Card 50 | A tree growing in left, in ledge of rock. On the ridge leading down from Van Vordon Lake, where some of relief partys may camp up from Bear Valley. (these high ridges are free of snow.) |

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| Index Card 51 | Remains of old parts of trees rotting away, supposed to have been cut by Party, near where, Murphys Cabin stood. |
| Index Card 52 | The place where possibly [sic] <i>possibly</i> the Wagons of the party stood on way to Cold Stream Trail. (Possible [sic] <i>possible</i> evidence were picked up about here) |
| Index Card 53 | Where relief partys came and went over the summit, up from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 54 | The likely route, taken by party, and relief partys between Summit and Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 55 | Possible routs taken by partys up from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 56 | Very old pieces of trees, are found, near old Emer. Trails, possibly cut by Emer. Of long ago. |
| Index Card 57 | A part of Donner Lake from high up on hill to the right of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 58 | Donner Lake (cloudy) |
| Index Card 59 | A few of what we called Goast [sic] <i>ghost</i> Stumps of a past, this group formed at one of the supposed camping places of Donner Party or relief partys on way between Bear Valley and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 60 P | my ok print |
| Index Card 61 | A beautiful popy colored bush flower, on ridge below Van Vordon Lake, where partys could have gone to and fro. (as snow was ass [sic] <i>as</i> deep here) |
| Index Card 62 | Markings, where many passed up and down, from, Donner Lake to Summit. |
| Index Card 63 | The top of the Summit Ridge, to left of the Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 64 | Lake Vanordon, Summit Valley A meadow when partys passed through. |
| Index Card 65 | A well marked on Glazed old tree found near Soda Spa. Sta. below Summit Valley. Included to neg. which reads where many marks were found on old trees of Cold Steam HCP |
| Index Card 66 | The high ridge of the Serrias. (to left of Cold Stream.) |
| Index Card 67 | The top of the Serrias. (looking Southwest from ridge abouve [sic] <i>above</i> Donner Lake.) |
| Index Card 68 | Donner Lake from left, on high ridge. |
| Index Card 69 | The top of the Serria from abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 70 | Showing the heavy snow, we encountered at this season of the year, this side of high ridge in the Serrias to left of Donner Lake. (On our first trip in.) |
| Index Card 71 | Showing how impossibility of crossing Serria Barrier at most places, as sheer cliffs [sic] <i>cliffs</i> rise up, in the most unexpected places, in <u>snow storm</u> like this experanced [sic] <i>experienced</i> in trying to hurry out there wagons and finely abandoning them, (turning back). |
| Index Card 72 | Looking back toward Trucke, from high ridge of the Serrias where partys came up, and crossed at this spot. (Left of Cold Stream Trail). |

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| Index Card 73 | Many trees still show markers. This clear one has names cut in by partys passing up this Cold Stream Trail many years ago. |
| Index Card 74 | Many old Goast like trees, were incounted [sic] <i>encountered?</i> on our trip over these old Emer. Trails of long ago. Near Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 75 | A view taken on high Serria Peak above Donner Lake, where partys came and went, the lake seen, was only a meadow. Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 76 | Passing over an old Emer. Trail that our brave Pioneers passed over, with heavy covered wagons. (And they built an Empire) Between Alder Creek, and Summit. |
| Index Card 77 | Effects of warm winds, and sunshine, the Coast side is bare of snow. (The top ridge of the Serrias up from Donner Lake.) |
| Index Card 78 | <u>"Cruil but Beautyfull"</u> Lines of trees mark where unknown partys of brave Pioneers passed up and over this great Serrias Bearrer. Taken from above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 79 | Early Emer. Had to overcome many high ridge barriers on there traverse to Calif. The dividing ridge of the beautyfull Serrias Spring, above, Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 80 | An living example of pluck [sic] <i>luck?</i> And indurance, of a tree on the very top most ridge of the Serria, <u>"Old Pioneer"</u> The <u>view</u> , was worth the <u>fight</u> " On ridge above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 81 | These two trees, thought the fight was worth struggling for, A top ridge of the "beautyfull Serrias" up from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 82 | This old Emer. Trail passes up Cold Stream from lower end of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 83 | A flat, just under overhanging rdige top, Upper part of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 84 | "The heroic struggle of a tree" that has not give up. The beautiful view from the top of this Serria Ridge was well worth it. Ridge above donner Lake. |
| Index Card 85 | Blocked by the Serria Ridge, at left of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 86 | On the spot where evidence of many anamals [sic] <i>animals</i> , and wagons were hauled over years ago, by unknown partys. Above Donner Lake to left of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 87 | A possiable route over Serria Ridge, where unknown partys had pased over, years ago. The edge of higher barrier can be seen, Pass to left of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 88 | A possible route up over the Serrian Ridge, to the left of Cold Stream Trail, looking back toward Trucke River. |
| Index Card 89 | How the winds evaporate Snow at this season of the year in exposed places, going back into the air, instead of soaking into ground means something in forest conservation, Summit Valler sid [sic] <i>side</i> of Serria Ridge. |
| Index Card 90 | An old tree, at side of Cold Stream Trail. Plain mark (Oct. 20 of 1866) – and much older markings weathered out two thirds of way to summit. |
| Index Card 91 | Twisted tree, possiably caused by partys lowering and hauling wagons over high Serria Ridge, here, allso the high rock is marked the same way. A pass over the ridge. |

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| Index Card 92 | Upper part of Cold Stream Trail. Looking back to lakes. Top of the Serria Ridge. |
| Index Card 93 | A possible pass, up from flat below over the Serria Ridge, to left of Cold Stream Trail. Not the well marked high rock to the right, where no doubt chains were used to haul up wagons. |
| Index Card 94 | Where the old Emer. Trail leads up to the dividing Ridge. Halfway up, Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 95 | Where Emer. Passed over in the old days. Near the top of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 96 | Emigrant Ridge, Where Wagons were lowered down into Bear Valley, from Carpenter Flat. (Lake Spoulden to the extreme right) (cut can be seen where RR passes through). |
| Index Card 97 | The kind of Country these poor people were wading starving over. Down from Summit, above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 98 | Bear Valley, where relief parties were encamped. And were Mary Graves and other starving and dying Emer. Finally reached. |
| Index Card 99 | An old pack trail leading from Donner Lake to Serria Summit. Relief parties and Reed-Donner party undoubtedly used this trail. |
| Index Card 100 | Up North from Donner Lake. And attempts to go out were made, heavy snow at the time, <u>failed</u> . |
| Index Card 101 | <u>South Fork of Yuba River</u> , A likely place, that parties made camp on, there way to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 102 | <u>South Fork of the Yuba River</u> , The most likely spot parties camped on there way down from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 103 | Old pack saddle route, leading up from Donner Lake to Summit. Where undoubtedly parties passed. |
| Index Card 104 | This view is what bewildered those, <u>starving, dying</u> , Emer. On there arrival to top of Summit Ridge. Below here some died, near this pretty little Lake they camped. Taken just over Ridge from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 105 | Very top, of Summit, above <u>a pack saddle</u> route. |
| Index Card 106 | Parties undoubtedly stopped here, wondered ("which <u>way will we go</u> ") Old stump, along where parties passed by on there way to Bear Valley. These trees had been fired in deep snow, many years ago, charred embers are 4 in under ground, undoubtedly a camp place. |
| Index Card 107 | Our "Covered Wagon." on present improved Highway, over where parties passed over on <u>way</u> up and down between Donner Lake and Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 108 | Pointing out a possible route to the right, that would lead to Bear Valley, by way of present Lake Spoulden. On the top of Summit above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 109 | The kind of rocks these poor starving people slipped, and fell over, on way to Bear Valley. That time, ice and snow covered Slippery Rocks. |
| Index Card 110 | One of those pretty lakes, that these starving people <u>camped near</u> . A Small art lake, top of Summit <u>above Donner Lake</u> . |

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| Index Card 111 | The kind of country, these poor, starving, Emer. Passed over, then covered with <u>ice, and snow</u> . Between Donner Lake and Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 112 | A spot on top, above those pretty lakes, where party climbed up to, from there shelters at Donner Lake. Looking in vain, for relief. Top of Summit, above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 113 | Where evidence of, some old camping place, where partys passed on there way from Donner lake to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 114 | One of these small art, lakes are supposed to cover the remains of some of that Reed-Donner Party. Small Art Lake on summit above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 115 | this spot, has evidence of a camp, along that period, some partys were free, on <u>way</u> up and down between Bear Valley and Donner Lake. A likley spot – Bear Valley to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 116 | The route taken by party between Bear Valley and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 117 | One of the many cmaping places where slight evidence we found, between, Bear Valley and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 118 | Evidence, of an old camp, where partys undouterly stoped on way to Bear Valley from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 119 | Evidence, of an old camp of years ago, one of there many camping places up and down between Bear Vally and Donner Lake. (deep snow here at that time) |
| Index Card 120 | Top of summit, above Donner Lake. These rocks were slipery when covered by ice, and snow where <u>starving</u> Emer. Pased. Foot, trail up over Summit above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 121 | One of the small Lakes, found above Donner Lake, where <u>partys</u> camped, died, Lake on Summit, above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 122 | Top of Emer. Ridge at Emer. Gap. (Some partys may have taken this Route) Bear Valley, Lake Spaulden. |
| Index Card 123 | A view, from Emer. Gap, where some partys could have com in to Bear Valley, (Lake Spaulden) from Donner L. Where relief partys, went up out of Bear Valley to bring in Emer. From Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 124 | Where relief party “waited,? And where those poor starving, stragulars, dieing, finely came in, Bear Valley Relief Camp. |
| Index Card 125 | Top of ridge, above cold Stream where Pack Trail came over Ridge to Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 126 | The shore of Donner Lake. Included to neg. – old HCP |
| Index Card 127 | Where parties crossed with covered wagons an down into Summit Valley – up from the left of Cold Stream – May 1927 |
| Index Card 128 | The first bare spot on the S.W. side of the Serria Summit. Above Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 129 | And the top of the Beautyfull Serria Summit above Donner Lake, where Emer. passed over, coming up Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 130 | Old stumps that are found at edge of Donner Lake, may have helped those brave people in there time. |
| Index Card 131 | On heavy snow, pointing at Serria Summit ahead on the Cold Stream trail. |

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| Index Card 132 | Camping on site of the old Emer. trail, abouve Donner Lake. (Clyde) |
| Index Card 133 | Camping on old Emer. trail abouve Donner Lake, Donner Lake. (Capt. Davis) |
| Index Card 134 | Our "Covered Wagon" camping below <u>Alder Meadow</u> . |
| Index Card 135 | Decayed parts of an old Emer. Wagon, found at and newar, trail out of Alder Creek Meadow. |
| Index Card 136 | A cold day was experanced at Donner Lake. Partys crossed over this frozen Lake in relief of Emer. |
| Index Card 137 | Ox, or cow bones found near Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 138 | A close up of parts of old Emer, wagons found where Reed-Donner party passed and in vicinity of where George Donner poihed his tent and died, Alder Creek Meadow. |
| Index Card 139 | Very old Goast Trees that indoutingly were cut by men in Snow. Near where George Donner had his campl. Alder Creek Meadows. |
| Index Card 140 | An old Goast tree, undoutablity cut off by Pioneers of long ago. Another part of itself, has taken its place, to beauterfey the place, where those brace people, starved to death. Near Cabins near Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 141 | Some evidence of possiable Reed-Donner wagons were left, pieces of wagon, ox shoes, hand made, and bit of iron and decayed ox yokes. Near Alder Creek Meadow. |
| Index Card 142 | The spot, undourly where Geo. Donner died, a few of decayed saplings can be seen, to the right where a lean to against bank, covered with hides was construced, Alder Creek Meadow. |
| Index Card 143 | We would come up with bleached bones of many Horses, Cows, and Oxen on these old trails in out <u>of way</u> places. Ox Bones Found near, Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 144 | Old ox, Cows, and Youkes. On Exhib. At Donner Monument. Mrs. Walbrook tells my they were <u>found</u> near here. |
| Index Card 145 | <u>Wooden axel</u> , and Hub. On Exhib near <u>Donner</u> Monument. Owner, claims these were found near hear. |
| Index Card 146 | Donner Lake Shore, Showing Goast Stumps where party passed on there way pver the snow and ice, <u>starving, dieing</u> . |
| Index Card 147 | One of our many Camp, Up from Alder Creek Meadow. |
| Index Card 148 | Old emmigrant wagon axele and hubs are in the building near Donner Monument. May '27 Owned by Mrs. Walbrook. |
| Index Card 149 | The tip, top ridge, of the Serrias Bearrier. Where many unknown partys of Emer. passed " <u>over the top</u> " |
| Index Card 150 | A place where Wagons passed over Serria Barriar to left of Cold Stream Trail. (to go down into Summit Valley) |
| Index Card 151 | Spot, passing up to Summit Ridge used by Pack Trains, to the left of Cold Stream, a good pass over into Summit Valley. |

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| Index Card 152 | A likely camping spot, or place of rest, where partys camp up over Summit Ridge, before going down to Summit Valley, abouve Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 153 | A beautyfull small lake found on top of Summit abouve Donner Lake, where partys camped, died. A Little Lake, abouve Donner Lake |
| Index Card 154 | This kind of country partys passed over, starving, dieing, strugeling over, ice and snow, lost most of the time. Hopeless (while there is life theres hope) Down from Summit Lakes abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 155 | Froze over Lake in Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 156 | Showing the part of Donner Lake, where many partys came to and fro, between cabins and route taken over Serrias by starving, dieing Emer. (Donner Lake Shore) |
| Index Card 157 | Kind of Country these poor starving, dieing Emer. tryed to walk over, failed, some are there yet, General view of average country experanced by Reed-Donner Party from Donner Lake to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 158 | A place where partys passed up and fown to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 159 | Upper part of Summit Valley abouve Donner Lake (Where partys passed over) |
| Index Card 160 | Where partys crossed over this lake when frozen on over the Summit ridge, Donner Lake Shore (lower end) |
| Index Card 161 | Along the north shore of Donner Lake where partys came from Cabins. North Shore of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 162 | Capt. Davis Pointing out route taken by partys passing over this Lake then frozen over. East Shore of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 163 | One of these preety Lakes covers members of the Reed-Donner Party, Camping here starved, Died A Summit Lake, abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 164 | An old pack trail, undouterly used by partys up, and down, between, Summit and Donner Lake. Between Donner Lake and Summit. |
| Index Card 165 | This kind of country, Emer. starving, barefooted, diring, hopelessly, strugled, leaving many along the way, as momuments of indurance. “ In the High Serrias” |
| Index Card 166 | This was the only dangerous anermal we encountered. (3 mounths old pup) “A Grizly Bear that attacked us”? |
| Index Card 167 | A small lack, abouve Van Vorden Lake in Summit Valley. Where partys came and went. |
| Index Card 168 | On way from Donner Lake over the Summit to Van Vordon Lake, where partys passed up and Down. (A Lake in the Serrias) |
| Index Card 169 | The pass that comes down from Summit abouve Donner Lake. And where Cold Stream Trail leads into Summit Valley. Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 170 | A small lake on top of summit abouve Donner Lake. A Summit Lake. This vicinity partys camped, <u>starving, dieing.</u> |

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| Index Card 171 | Shores of Van Vorden Lake, At time Emer. passed over this valley, same was a meadow. Shore of Van Vorden Lake. |
| Index Card 172 | Capt. Davis An unkown monument we found on ridge leading down from lower end of Summit Valley. 5 miles below, undouterly was a marker put there, by relief partys coming up from Bear Vallley. (This natural ridge would be only place free of snow for many miles that pack mules could be driven.) |
| Index Card 173 | This beautyfull little lake is on the Summit abouve Donner Lake, and is near where Emer. and some died here. Small Art Lake abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 174 | On the high ridge, below Summit Valley, that runs down many miles. Where relief partys undouterly brought up their pack anemells on this ridge, would be no snow. (Route on Ridge) |
| Index Card 175 | Where Emer. wagons came into Summit Valey over dividing ridge of Serrias. Up from Cold Stream to left of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 176 | Near Soda Spring Sta. At time partys passed this was a meadow. |
| Index Card 177 | The kind of Country found on the Great Serria Summit abouve Donner Lake. This is a view behld by starving, dieing, Emer. |
| Index Card 178 | Place where pack anemells came down to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 179 | Standing on the top of Summit abouve Donner Lake. Those poor, Emer. called these slippery rockes, they then were covered by snow and ice. " <u>A Hopless Outlook.</u> " |
| Index Card 180 | Pretty art, lake on Summit abouve Donner Lake. On the trail where party of starving, dieing, Emer. passed down into Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 181 | A small art lake at Summit abouve Donner Lake where it is through the members of the party camped here, some died here. Possiably (Starvation Camp) |
| Index Card 182 | A small art lake at Summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 183 | On path going to Murphys Rock from Monument. |
| Index Card 184 | Where Prosser Creek comes down to Alder Creek. Upper part of Meadow. Holart Mills smoking, taken from high hill between Donner Lake and Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 185 | Between Alder Cr. And Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 186 | Route over the hills from Alder Creek to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 187 | Between Alder Creek and Graves Cabin over the hills. |
| Index Card 188 | Site of an old lumber camp on trail back of Trucke, up from Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 189P | Neg. ok |
| Index Card 190 | Near spot many are burred. Spot of side of rock to left where Murphy family had a shelter the fireplace. (Old stump today bear there markings laying about decaying). |
| Index Card 191 | Where Murphys died. May 1927. |
| Index Card 192 | Trail of Donner Tragedy. |

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| | May, 1927. |
| Index Card 193 | Stumps left by Donner party, overlooking Murphy's cabin north and where wagons were left. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 194 | Murphys Rock. Where tablet marks the site of Shleter where party starved died. |
| Index Card 195 | Dead stump between Murphy's cabin and Reed's and Keseberg's cabin site. May 1927. |
| Index Card 196 | Alder Creek Meadow near camp site of Capt. Geo. Donner. May 1927. |
| Index Card 197 | Old emmigrant trails – Donner Lake Country. |
| Index Card 198 | West side of Donner Lake. May 1927 |
| Index Card 199 | Ghost tree stumps of Donner tragedy. |
| Index Card 200 | Alder Creek Meadow near Prosser Creek. Close to vicintiy where Geo Donner camped and died, off here. |
| Index Card 201 | The north side of Donner Lake. "Our Covered Wagons." |
| Index Card 202 | To extream right is Alder Creek Meadow. Holart Mills where smoke is seen. Taken on high hill between Alder Cr. and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 203 | Near site where Geo Donner died. Alder Creek Meadow. |
| Index Card 204 | On way up Cold Stream. Old Emer. Trail. |
| Index Card 205 | Over hills between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 206 | On way between Alder Creek Meadow and Donner Lake. Emer. Trail. |
| Index Card 207 | Between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 208 | This route was undouterly taken by that Heroc little Lady, Mrs. Tamson Donner between Alder Creek and Graves Cabin, ' <u>Alone: Hopeless</u> ' in snow. |
| Index Card 209 | Where cross fyer, burnt down abouve Graves Cabin site. The old stump can be seen proped up. |
| Index Card 210 | Negative & print says – "Donner Lake" HCP HCP crossed out the following description: An old tree on the old trail, may have been injured by passing Emer. marking some. |
| Index Card 211 | Aulder Creek Meadow Under bank ahead in where Geo Donner party erected shelter, there died. |
| Index Card 212 | Ahead can be dimsley seen Alder Creek Meadow and to left Holart Mills. Taken from high hill between Meadow and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 213 | Above Donner Lake left shore |
| Index Card 214 | Part of Prosser Creek Meadow. Holart Mills where smoke shows. |
| Index Card 215 | An outline of skyline of Serrias Barrier abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 216 | Where Reed-Donner party ame around with wagons from abouve Reno to Trucke, view back of Trucke. |

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| Index Card 217 | In the vicinity where Geo Donner, and some of party died. Alder Creek Meadow |
| Index Card 218 | An old Lumber Mill of the 50's back of trucke, Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 219 | This route was undouterly taken by partys, between Alder Creek and Graves Cabin. |
| Index Card 220 | Old marked stumps on Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 221 | Lumber Camp abouve Alder Creek Meadow and Prosser Creek. "Restrooms," are all that is standing today. |
| Index Card 222 | An old camp site in Alder Creek Meadow. |
| Index Card 223 | Bronze tablet, on bridge at highway, on way down to Donner Lake, covering where party walked up, starving, dieing. |
| Index Card 224 | Where Emer. trail passes over dividing ridge of the Serrias. Top of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 225 | Scene from high, Hogback Ridge, just under the Serria Barrier to the left of Cold Stream. Where unknown pack anamals have come up to pass over the Barrier. The way up from Trucke River on Hogback. |
| Index Card 226 | Capt. Davis, pointing down to Donner Lake, from Serria Barrier Summit near Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 227 | Deformed growing tees, along old trails of long ago. On ridge leading up to top near Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 228 | Up from Horse Shoe Bend on way up Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 229 | The remaining stump of an old tree that had been fired in deep snow. Possiably by Emer. party other broken old trees here indicate camping spot. Stump near Soda Spr. Sta. |
| Index Card 230 | On the way down, after coming up Cold Stream Trail. Coming into Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 231 | An old 'Goast Tree' Hear and there clost to Emer. trails of long ago, on meets up with unmistakable evidence that partys have passed there. "Near Donner Lake." |
| Index Card 232 | Blank Index Card |
| Index Card 233 | Chrehad to neg, which says – "Donner from Summit to Van Vorden Lake" Left of Summit – June 22-27" HCP |
| Index Card 234 | Site of an old Lumber Camp, under Snow Hog Back <u>Cold Stream</u> . Near here was where found parts of an old Wagon. Undouterly Emer. left it here and turned back as route was impossible ahead. |
| Index Card 235 | On a hill between Alder Creek and Graves Cabin. Where some partys passed over. |
| Index Card 236 | Showing holes in snow, caused by warm winds. Evapiration was greater here than, what melted down to ground maing water. Out water sheds are looseing much water owing to this fast (Summit on the east side). |
| Index Card 237 | Where Cold Stream Trail comes up from trucke below. On the Snow Hog Back under the Serria Barrier. |

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| Index Card 238 | A lonesome little lake we found on our way up on a Hog Back Ridge to the left of Cold Stream, "The Serria Barrier" |
| Index Card 239 | A pretty little lake just above Van Vorden Lake. Little Summit Lake on the West side of ridge coming up from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 240 | Taken from high Hog Back Ridge. In distance, can be outlined by the tree growth, an old pack trail up over to the left of the Serria Barrier. "Serria Bearrier." |
| Index Card 241 | Bones of an old horse we found on top of Summit Ridge above Donner Lake. Capt. Davis investigating. |
| Index Card 242 | From the top of Hog Back Ridge, going up to the right of Cold Stream, over, Donner Lake. Dry Hog Back Ridge. |
| Index Card 243 | Passing up to Summit by way of Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 244 | Up old Cold Stream Trail pointing over the top where Emer. drove there covered wagons to Calif. Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 245 | This baby, lake, we came onto on the dry Hog Back Ridge leading up to the Ridge, to left of Cold Stream up from horse show bend, "Baby Lake" |
| Index Card 246 | A beautifull tiny lake we came on, on the Dry Hog Back Ridge, half way up to Summit 'Baby Lake.' An old pack trail led up here. |
| Index Card 247 | This old wagon had decayed so badly just fell apart and was nearly buried, under the Serria Barier to right of Snow Hog Back. "An Old Wagon." |
| Index Card 248 | A little tiny lake we came our half way up Dry Hog Back Ridge 'Baby Lake' A trapper trail leads up here and passes over the Ridge. |
| Index Card 249 | At the foot of this Barrier we found an old wagon, undouterly, party came up ere by mystake in blinding snowstorm, taking the rong side of ridge. The impassable Barrier of the High Serrias. (From snow hog back ridge.) |
| Index Card 250 | A line of trees in distance clearly outlines, a route taken over the Serria Barrier to the left of Cold Stream where marked rocks and trees were found. Taken from high Snow Hog Back |
| Index Card 251 | Looking back toward Truckee from the high brow of the eastern end of Snow Hog Back. To the left of Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 252 | This old wagon lays under the great impassable Barrier. Whoever left some here was lost no dout in a blinding snow. Found just under side of Snow Hog Back to the left of Cold Stream Emer. Trail. (Old Wagon Parts) |
| Index Card 253 | Parts of an old wagon found under the Great Serria Barrier. To the left of Cold Stream Emer. Trail. |
| Index Card 254 | Art lake on top of ridge up from Donner Lake. Where Emer. partys passed over on way down to Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 255 | Stockmen drive sheep up and over into pretty meadows in early summer, over many old Pack Trails of long ago. |

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| | On way up to Ridge of Serria up from Van Vorden Lake. |
| Index Card 256 | On the same route travelled by partys on there way to and from Donner Lake to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 257 | The place in Bear Valley where headquarters were made for relief partys. This photo taken at ridge on Emer. Gap. |
| Index Card 258 | This Carpenter Flat is where Emergrant Wagons camped and got ready to lower there wagons down over this ridge into Bear Valley "Carpenter Flat" |
| Index Card 259 | Looking down the impossiable Blue Canon American Rivier, why Emer. had to go down over the ridge to right to Bear Valley. Town of Emirgrant Gap " Blue Canon" |
| Index Card 260 | The impossiable Barrier. Near here we found an old wagon. The Great Serria Bearrier. |
| Index Card 261 | Emer. Gap Ridge Where Emer. lowered there wagons down to Bear Valley from Carpenter Flat. |
| Index Card 262 | The way some of relief partys went up where Lake Spaulding now is, out of Bear Valley. Taken on Emergrant Gap. |
| Index Card 263 | Bear Valley from Emergrant Gap |
| Index Card 264 | The place in Bear Valley where relief partys camped and where those starved, dieing Emer. came in. Taken from below the Emer. Gap Ridge |
| Index Card 265 | This spot is where Emer. lowered there wagons down to Bear Vally from Carpenter Flat. "Emer. Gap Ridge." |
| Index Card 266 | Upper Bear Valley where relief party <u>waited</u> . Finely a few <u>starving, dieing</u> members of the <u>brave</u> lot of <u>Pioneers</u> dragged themselves in. What was left of Reed-Donner Party. "Bear Valley" |
| Index Card 267 | On the North side of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 268 | That risge at Emer. Gap near where wagons were lowered down to Bear Valley. (Emer. Gap Ridge) |
| Index Card 269 | Capt. Davis pointing out the route taken by Emer. of years ago up Cold Stream Trail in distance. On top of Snow Hog Back Ridge |
| Index Card 270 | A very old decayed wagon we came up with in a most inaccessible place. Under the Great Bearrier of the Serria. "An Old Wagon" |
| Index Card 271 | Showing an old Emer. and Stage road along the ridge to left coming out of Carpenter Flat, to where Emer. used block and tackle fastened to trees and lowered wagons to Bear Valley. Ridge and Carpenter Flat |
| Index Card 272 | This old Emer. trail still in use today near Trucke. (Old Emer. Trail) |
| Index Card 273 | The town of Emer. Gap. Showing ridge, that wagons were lowered down into Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 274 | On the way up, Cold Stream Trail, where many Emer passed over in old days. |
| Index Card 275 | Bear Valley from Emer. Gap. |

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| Index Card 276 | View from Emer. Ridge |
| Index Card 277 | Top of Ridge at Emer. Gap above Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 278 | School house at Emer. Gap and its flock. |
| Index Card 279 | Wagons of Emer. were lowered from the Emer. Gap Ridge to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 280 | From Emer. Gap Ridge |
| Index Card 281 | Along the ridge at Emer. Gap where wagons came up from Carpenter Flat. |
| Index Card 282 | A close up of parts of old wagon, decayed, (we left it piled up like this) Well up under Serria Barrier to left of Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 283 | Old wagon parts, ox yokes, bones of animals, Found under Serrias Barrier, left of Cold Stream. Taken on our 2 nd Trip. |
| Index Card 284 | An old trunk parts found in vicinity of old Wagon left of Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 285 | Old yokes, found where an old wagon lay to left of Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 286 | On the trail of the Donner party. |
| Index Card 287 | One of the scenes on the trail of the Donner party. May 1927. |
| Index Card 288 | One of many camping places of immigrants. |
| Index Card 289 | On the trail of the Donner party. |
| Index Card 290 | Old wagon and parts. |
| Index Card 291 | Old wagon parts. |
| Index Card 292 | Where Donner party left their Teams. |
| Index Card 293 | How Nature does with marked trees. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 294 | Where wagons came over summit, to the left of cold streams. |
| Index Card 295 | Cold Stream Trail on the Trail of the Donner Party. |
| Index Card 296 | On the trail of the Donner party. |
| Index Card 297 | Age hiding the markings on old Emigrant Trails. |
| Index Card 298 | Old marked tree on old Emigrant Trail. |
| Index Card 299 | Old wagon parts and ox bones on old Emigrant Trail to Sutter's Fort. |
| Index Card 300 | Three, old ox yokes, found near an old lumber camp, near where the parts of an old wagon was found, to left of Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 301 | The Hogback ridge, Lake Spaulding on left of Emigrant Gap. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 302 | The covered wagons of today. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 303 | Emer. Gap. Ridge, Where wagons were lowered down to Carpenter Flat. |

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| Index Card 304 | An impassable cond. is encountered going down by the Am. River. Reason Emer. partys had to go by way of Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 305 | Emer. Gap Ridge, This is the Ridge where Emer. lowered there Wagons down into Bear Valley, from Carpenter Flat to right, back on ridge where R.R. bends to right. Foreground is where road is built. |
| Index Card 306 | (Was crossed out on card) The old back stage road passing up from Donner Lake. Spot where wagons were lowered down from Emer. Gap Ridge, into Bear Valley, upper part to first bend of highway. |
| Index Card 307 | The kind of country, and trees, party passed through on way up from Camps below Donner Lake. Our 'Covered Wagons' |
| Index Card 308 | How a bridge is made over a runing stream of water, in the old days |
| Index Card 309 | The kind of trees the Donner party, found in this Beautiful Country on there arrival, to go over dividing ridge, on way up abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 310P | neg. ok |
| Index Card 311 | Virgin trees, at our camp abouve Donner Lake on old back stage road. |
| Index Card 312 | One of our best camps abouve Donner Lake under Summit, Capt. Davis standing near stream. |
| Index Card 313 | This virgin tree country, is how there whole route was, when Emer. camped and starved. Where many passed on there way up from Cabins below Donner Lake, to start up over Ridge. |
| Index Card 314 | On an old pack trail passing up from Donner Lake Camp over Summit to Summit Valley |
| Index Card 315 | The impassable barrier of the Serria Ridge abouve, left of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 316 | One of the plesentest camp we had, amoung virgin trees, near the old Stage road, abouve Donner Lake. Our covered wagon. "washinga weeks dishes." |
| Index Card 317 | Where partys passed over on way from Donner Camp to, and over Summit Ridge. |
| Index Card 318 | On old Pack Trail abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 319 | On partys way up to Summit, from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 320 | "Beautyfull," Donner Peak on way over Summit from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 321 | An old Pack Trail over Summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 322 | Our interesting camp in Virgin trees, below Summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 323 | Old Stump. |
| Index Card 324 | Possible Pack route leading up and over Summit Ridge from Donner Lake, to left highways. |
| Index Card 325 | On an old Pack Trail passing up to Summit from Donner Lake. |

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| Index Card 326 | Top of Summit above Donner Lake, (where partys walked up) |
| Index Card 327 | The South Fork of the Beautiful Yuba River, Where partys passed down and up to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 328 | One of the many probed [sic] <i>probable</i> sites, where partys camped on there way up and down to Donner Lake. The Covered Wagon of today, and friends we met. |
| Index Card 329 | A few of the 'Goast Trees,' This spot on the bank of the Yuba River, was undouterly [sic], a larger camping place. Chared ground and very old chopped and hacked, broken wood, also the sheltered condition in pass. |
| Index Card 330 | "That beautyfull Yuba River" near where partys camped on the way, up and down to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 331 | A likely camping place on there way dwon from top of Summit, to summit valley below. We found slight indercations [sic] <i>indications</i> . |
| Index Card 332 | The northern shore of Lake Van Vorden, Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 333 | An old Emer. near trail off the Playcerville Route |
| Index Card 334 | Some of the mountains we explored in the Serrias, South side of Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 335 | Summit Valley. From north ? slope, Lake Van Vorden. |
| Index Card 336 | Exploreing, Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 337 | There were no dry place, up here for us Desert "Rats," We got under trees, fine while it snowed, "but" the snow melted, with no places to go. 'dampeness war in our bones,' |
| Index Card 338 | These well marked trees are oppoiste, Murphys Rock, The hacking on them, undoutly done by some of Reed Donner Party. These have been there and well known during Civil War Days. |
| Index Card 339 | Old tree stumps, met up with on our way down, along the route, that partys went to Bear Valley from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 340 | The pass where partys came up from Donner Lake, over into Summit Valley west of Van Vorden Lake. |
| Index Card 341 | "A feeling of spring was in the air," Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 342 | A place where platform had been laid over deep snows, where a fire had been built there on. This could have been Starvation or Death Camp (Spot is below Summit Valley 1/5 distance down to Bear Valley) |
| Index Card 343 | Van Vorden Lake, Summit Valley (Was frozen over, on our first visit) |
| Index Card 344 | Showing Snow Hog Back. Horseshoe bend where the old Emer. Cold Stream Trail passes up to right in foreground. (To the right of this Hog Back well in we found an old wagon.) |
| Index Card 345 | Donner Lake, Pack trail over Summit Ridge. |
| Index Card 346 | Pointing out a possiable route taken by partys down to Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 347 | North edge of Summit Valley Paruting [sic] to route taken down by Soda Sprs. |

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| | "A Spring Snow Storm" |
| Index Card 348 | Van Vorden Lake Summit Valley in (Spring Snow Storm) |
| Index Card 349 | The high hill at lower end of Van Vorden Lake where a pack trail follows the long ridge West many miles, and would be less snow. Evidence of partys having passed over this rought, many years ago. |
| Index Card 350 | The high ridge below Van Vorden Lake. Where a pack trail leade. |
| Index Card 351 | Along an old Pack trail in Summit Valley. This tree was undoubterly fired when deep snow covered ground. |
| Index Card 352 | Along the north side of Van Vorden Lake, Summit Valley. Below here partys passed. |
| Index Card 353 | Here we found evidence of an old, old camping place where stump stands. This place could have been extreamly used by partys coming and going to Donner Lake abouve Tamerock Flat. |
| Index Card 354 | Below here, partys passed through Summit Valley, Van Vorden Lake, (A meadow in those days) |
| Index Card 355 | The Yuba River, near where we found signs of an old Camp. |
| Index Card 356 | Along the northerly, upper shores of Van Vorden Lake where some partys possibly passed over. |
| Index Card 357 | A scienes [sic] scene looking across to the South E. across Summit Valley. (At the extream left trails come in over dividing ridge). |
| Index Card 358P | neg ok |
| Index Card 359 | Pack trail over summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 360 | A this time of year ice made over night One a meadow on way up Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 361 | One of the many routes up to Summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 362 | On the old pack trail, leading up to Summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 363 | That Heroic Reed-Donner party called these rocks "slipary" (I should have thought they were impossible, to partys with full stomachs [sic] <i>stomachs</i>) when covered with ice and snow. |
| Index Card 364 | Those poor people, sliped all over these rocks on there way to Summit. That wonderfull girl (Mary Graves) "said they were slipery when covered with ice and snow. |
| Index Card 365 | Beautyfull now, but when those starving, dieing, Emer. passed over on foot, they were covered with ice and snow. The Summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 366 | A resting place, undouterly used by partys passing up from Donner Lake to Summit Ridge. |
| Index Card 367 | An old Pack Trail, no dout used by partys coming and going, to and fro. Between Summit Valley and Donner Camps. |

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| Index Card 368 | The kind country they fell over on Summit above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 369 | Capt. Davis, resting in an old time auto found under an overhanging cliff above Donner Lake. (The end of a perfect Day) |
| Index Card 370 | A pack route, to Summit no doubt used by parties coming and going to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 371 | The old auto. Capt. Davis resting (The end of a perfect day for some party, unknown.) |
| Index Card 372P | neg ok |
| Index Card 373 | An old Pack Route up from Donner Lake (no doubt parties went up and down here.) |
| Index Card 374 | Resting place on Summit above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 375 | Crossed out on card: Between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. A Canon [sic] <i>canyon</i> to right of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 376 | The Reed-Donner Party found these rocks slippery? When covered with ice, and snow. |
| Index Card 377 | When Emer. party passed over these rocks. Little Virgerina Reed and that other Heroine Miss Mary Graves said they found them Slipery? |
| Index Card 378 | Where some more going up by Emer. party were said to be ("slipery rocks were encountered on our passage up to Summit,") Then covered with ice and snow. |
| Index Card 379 | Mute, evidence that someone must have got hurt. This old auto lays near present new highway under over hanging cliff. Checked to neg - which read "An way up from Summit to Donner Lake - May 1927 HCP |
| Index Card 380 | Some of the country passed over by Reed - Donner Party above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 381 | Where old stage road went up over above Donner Lake. And Emer. parties no doubt passed over. |
| Index Card 382 | When these rocks were covered with ice and slush the walking was considered by members of Emer. to be "slipery"? |
| Index Card 383 | A snow shed, on old route up Pack Trail, into and out of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 384 | On the trail of the Donner Party. May 1927. |
| Index Card 385 | The way up from Donner Lake that the party took. |
| Index Card 386 | Where parties came and went above Donner Lake. May 19227. |
| Index Card 387 | Above Donner Lake. The way laden oxen went up. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 388 | Where relief parties came in with supplies to Lake. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 389 | This is an old Bus, we found at Newport Beach, This Buss, was driven about San Francisco in early days. The owner stands to left. |
| Index Card 390 | Off this sign on Highway between Reno and Truckee in Alder Creek Meadow where Geo Donner and few of party of Emer. died. |

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| | (Good place for marker)? Near Prosaer House. |
| Index Card 391P | no data 1/5/28 |
| Index Card 392 | Mrs. Gen McGlusken Pointing out where Emer. went up Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 393 | One of our many pretty camping places on the Reed-Donner expedition. 1927. |
| Index Card 394 | Old government marker, Reno and Truckee. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 395 | Between Alder Creek Meadow and Donner Lake. (Coming over hills) |
| Index Card 396P | no data 1/5/28 |
| Index Card 397 | A very old shelter from snow storms. Found between Alder Creek and Graves cabin. May 1927. |
| Index Card 398 | Where many of the Donner party and relief parties went up from Donner Lake Camp. |
| Index Card 399 | An old stump, left by passnig immigrants. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 400 | A Beautyfull sciene [sic] <i>scene</i> Capenter Flat where Emer. and Trappers camped before lowering wagons over Emer. Gap Ridge into Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 401 | Gavalato Pass, Where we picked up in cave an old Indian Club. Where Ind. attacked Gen. Freemont. |
| Index Card 402 | no neg |
| Index Card 403 | Gen. McGlashen pointing me out the trail used by Emer. to go over Serria Summit Ridge with wagons. Standing on north side of Donner Creek pointing up Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 404 | This old Gov. com. marker is where many Emer. camped on way between Trucke and Reno Ven |
| Index Card 405 | The old Emer. trail between Reno and Trucke. |
| Index Card 406 | Looking back towards where Reed-Donner Party shelters were put up on a ridge that starts a Emer. trail up Cold Stream to right. |
| Index Card 407 | On present highway opp. Alder Creek and Proser Creek Meado, where Geo Donner and some of Emer. party camped and died. Between Trucke and Reno Ven |
| Index Card 408 | The Emer. Gap Ridge, Where Emer. and Trappers lowered wagons over into Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 409 | Crossed out on card: one of the impassable canun leading up on the right side of Donner Lake. Where party failed to make and turned back in snow. Check to neg which reads "Alder Creek Meadow ahead - where Geo Donner died on way to Calif in 1846-7 - upper part of meadow ones can be seen in distance" HCP |
| Index Card 410 | no neg |
| Index Card 411 | We found an old wagon tire on Cold Stream Trail on our way up. Behind Clyde is a stump that some early time travellers cut. |

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| Index Card 412 | Many marking on trees here – Cold Stream Trail. May 1927. |
| Index Card 413 | On the trail of the Donner party. May 1927. |
| Index Card 414 | On the trail of the Donner party. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 415 | Snow sheds of the Central Pacific Railroad. May 1927. |
| Index Card 416 | On the way up Cold Stream. May 1927 |
| Index Card 417 | Our camp. May 1927. |
| Index Card 418 | On the trail of the Donner party. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 419 | One of the many small meadows found on these old trails. |
| Index Card 420 | On way down to Bear Valley. May 1927. |
| Index Card 421 | Bones at Soda Springs Station. May, 1927 |
| Index Card 422 | The way the relief parties came and went above Donner Lake. May 1927. |
| Index Card 423 | On the trail of the Donner party. May 1927. |
| Index Card 424 | Murphys Rock, where many died from starvation. May 1927. |
| Index Card 425 | An old marked tree. May 1927. |
| Index Card 426 | A hole dug in ground by passing coyotes, where someone was buried. On way to top of summit. May 1927. |
| Index Card 427 | Old bones dug out by wild coyotes from graves. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 428 | Where relief parties came up and down to starving people. May 1927. |
| Index Card 429 | On the Trail of the Donner party. May 1927. |
| Index Card 430 | An old timer. May 1927. |
| Index Card 431 | On the trail of the Donner Party. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 432 | Where relief parties came and went above Donner Lake. May 1927. |
| Index Card 433 | What heavy snows did to buildings up here last winter. |
| Index Card 434 | Bones found on Emigrant Trail. May 1927. |
| Index Card 435 | Old ax. On the trail of the Donner Party. |

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| | May, 1927. |
| Index Card 436 | Well marked trees. May 1927. |
| Index Card 437 | Our camp on the trail of the Donner party. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 438 | The old Pack Trail can be easily traced today where undoubtedly parties used on their way to and from between Donner Lake and Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 439 | Pointing out where a trail leads up and over Serrias. Above Cold Stream on Dry Hog Back Ridge. |
| Index Card 440 | Where Cold Stream Trail passed up over the dividing ridge. |
| Index Card 441 | "Snow Hog Back." (above Cold Stream |
| Index Card 442 | On top of Hog Back Ridge. (to the right below wagon was found) |
| Index Card 443 | Old trees on high hill above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 444 | Where Reed-Donner pasted up to Donner Lake Camp from below Truckee. |
| Index Card 445 | Old Pack animals [sic] <i>animals</i> bones found near Summit coming into Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 446 | Gen. McGlachen standing at edge of Donner Creek pointing out the old Cold Stream Trail. That Reed-Donner party came to pass over impossible ??? to heavy, snow so, camped on ridge below. |
| Index Card 447 | Gen. McGlachen home above town of Truckee. The buildings below are his Offices. |
| Index Card 448 | This old tree stands today near the Donner Monument. And plainly shows the feable marks of axe in the hand of some member of the starving dying Reed-Donner Party. Mr. Graves personally found the axe used at the foot of this tree many years after (Marked Tree) |
| Index Card 449 | On the Snow Hog Back Pointing out the Cold Stream Trail over to extreme right where Trail passes over Sierra Summit. (Snow Hog Back Ridge) |

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| Index Card 450 | On the way up from Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 451 | On the top of Ridge above Cold Stream Where an old Pack Train passed up and over. |
| Index Card 452 | The site of Murphys Cabin. Old stump still standing that partys cut wood from. |
| Index Card 453 | This tree stood much higher up to a few years ago. This historical old timere still stand at edge of Highway up from Graves Cabin Tablet. It had been cut in deep snow. (Graves Cabin Tree Stump) |
| Index Card 454 | Undouterly an old cmaping place used by partys coming down from Donner Lake Cabins. Near Tasmerack Flat on there way to Bear Valley. (Goast Tree at camping place.) |
| Index Card 455 | Spot on Donner Creek west from Graves Cabin where parties had a big fire burning in the deep snow. Stump still standing on way up to Donner Monument from Graves Cabin. |
| Index Card 456 | On the high hills, Between Trucke and Alder Creek Where some of partys passed over. |
| Index Card 457 | Looking down from high ridge Barrier to where a wagon was abandoned another high ridge is still above here. (Still people kick about cond. of there mordern Highways?) |
| Index Card 458 | Passing up above Cold Stream pointing out way up. The snow in open place was Evaporating into the air. OLD HCP |
| Index Card 459 | The large wooden cross, Burnt down by (Civilized Hoodlems) of today. Marking Burel palce of Emer. who died at Graves Cabin just below this rise. |
| Index Card 460 | A few stumps are all that remain snear where this Historic party had there shelters. With that wonderfull Monument of Inspiration. Donner Monument. |
| Index Card 461 | On the high Hog Back Ridge to the left of Cold Stream pointing out two way that unknown partys passed over dividing ridge. Dry Hog Back Ridge. |
| Index Card 462 | Only at certain palces could wagons pass over. Why? Part of the dividing ridge of the Serrias. |
| Index Card 463 | Near Cold Stream Trail pointing up to Summit. Near old trails we found stumps that had been burnt off in deep snow. |
| Index Card 464 | Some of the country passed over above Alder Creek and where evidence of an old map was found. |
| Index Card 465 | The beautyfull Serrias are impossiable to pass over with deep snow. Yet those wounderfull heroic starving, dieing, hopless Reed-Donner Party got over? |
| Index Card 466 | A beautyfull sciene about Donner Lake in Spring. Where the Impossiable attempts were mad [sic] <i>made</i> to take over wagons in heavy snow. |

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| Index Card 467 | Nature, taking care of the future, New Trees, replacing old, near Donner Lake above Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 468 | Taken from high hill above Sonner Lake, showing the beautyfull divided ridge of the summit. Impassable for wagons with heavy snow. (Spring) |
| Index Card 469 | On top of high hill to left of Donner Lake. This place was the sciene of an old camp in deep snow. (Spring) |
| Index Card 470 | Passing up Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 471 | In the high Serrias above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 472 | Passing over Serria Summit into Summit Valley. Part of Horse Show Bend. |
| Index Card 473 | On an old Emer. trail Between Donner Lake and Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 474 | Where the old Emer. Trail led up Cold Stream. (Spring) |
| Index Card 475 | A taberlet marks where Graves Cabin stood and some of family lay buried, near Donner Creek. |
| Index Card 476 | The country where partys came up and fown in deep snow on foot getting lost, Donner Lake and Bear Valley. A tree that was burned of [sic] <i>off</i> in deep snow. |
| Index Card 477 | Van Vorden Lake, Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 478 | Gen. McGlashen pointing out Cold Stream Trail. |
| Index Card 479 | Where old Emer. trail led Passing up Cold Stream. "Spring" |
| Index Card 480 | Van Vorden Lake, in early in Spring thawing ice. Horu warm spring winds affect ice on this pretty lake. |
| Index Card 481 | Warm winds of Spring at Van Vorden Lake, Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 482 | The road taken by partys around high hills between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. (back of Trucke) |
| Index Card 483 | Capt. Davis pointing out an old pack trail passing over to Donner Lake in high hills above Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 484 | A Mt. known as red mt opp Cisco. This Mt should be named after that Heroic Stanton who gave his life near here and saved many of the Reed-Donner P. Stanton Mountin.) |
| Index Card 485 | Where Gaves Cabin stood near Donner Creek. (Standing opp. Spot) |
| Index Card 486 | How we found the trail passing up Cold Stream, "Spring" |
| Index Card 487 | The trail up from Alder Creek Meadow passing over to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 488 | Between Graves Cabin and Donner Monument. Donner Creek (old stumps that party cut still standing) |
| Index Card 489 | Some of country passed over in vicinity of Donner Lake, "Spring" |
| Index Card 490 | Lake Van Vorden, Summit Valley, Frozen over in the Spring. |

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| Index Card 491 | Showing how snow bridges are formed from water melting tunnel below. Steping, falling through these on a larger scale, was some of the experances [sic] <i>experiences</i> of those starving, dieing helpless women and children of Reed-Donner Party. |
| Index Card 492 | In the vicinity of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 493 | One of the many possiable camping places of partys in vicinity of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 494 | An old camping place in evidence along partys trail between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 495 | Cross, The site of Graves Cabin, Donner Creek, Cross on ground, the Mounment can be seen in distance to left. |
| Index Card 496 | Goast Stump, at an old camping place of partys coming up and down, Between Bear Valley and Donner Cabins. |
| Index Card 497 | On the old Emer. trails near Cold Stream, "Spring" |
| Index Card 498 | Between Alder Creek Meadows and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 499 | Train Sheds, abouve Van Vorden Lake, Summit Vally. "Spring" |
| Index Card 500 | The kind of Country over hills between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. Where that heroic little lady Mrs. Geo. Donner travelled through deep snow alone, disheartened, starving, cold, dieing, hopeless, without hope. ("but doing her duty to the last") |
| Index Card 501 | A very likely place, that some of partys camped abouve Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 502 | Top of highes hill between Donner Lake and Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 503 | A possiable camping place of partys, passing over these hills between Alder Creek and Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 504 | On an old pack trail, passing down below Summit Valley. Country partys passed through when this ground was covered with deep snow. |
| Index Card 505 | The old Emer. trail passing up, below Donner Lake, from Trucke River. |
| Index Card 506 | One of the many places, where those poor Emer. could have lost there lives. (Fire would fall through snow into a stream of running water leaving, women and children hopeless, <u>alone</u> , McGlashen) |
| Index Card 507 | Well marked old trees, that witnessed that terriable tradgerty [sic] <i>tradgey</i> of Murphys Shelter. Tablit can be seen on large rock where shleter was constructed. These trees bear marks today. |
| Index Card 508 | This, red mountain opp. Cisca, is the possiable place that relief party found the remains of that wonderful, hero Stanton. Should be given the name Mt. Stanton. |
| Index Card 509 | Part of the Summit, abouve Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 510 | Red Mt. opp. Cisca, near where Stanton remains are today undouterly. This Mt. should be named after that wounderfull man, Mt. Stanton. |
| Index Card 511 | Red Mt. |

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| | Near where relief party started to go up to try and locate best route to see Donner Lake. Finding remains of Stanton. This Mt. should be named Mr. Stanton. |
| Index Card 512 | A possiable spot where partys camped on wau up and down from Donner Lake to Bear Valley. On highway up from Tamerack Flat |
| Index Card 513 | On Playserville Route. Monument where bandits help up Stage from Vigermer City. |
| Index Card 514 | Monumnet and the tree that bandits hid behind and help up stage. (Placervill Route) |
| Index Card 515 | The old Emer. trail and stage road still seen. (Placerville Route) |
| Index Card 516 | A Beautyfull scine, Bridal Veal Falls, Placerville Route "Spring" |
| Index Card 517 | Part of an old Emer. trail, up from Alder Creek. |
| Index Card 518 | An old safe, at side of the Strawberry House, (Placerville Route) |
| Index Card 519 | Photo of the <u>air</u> , abouve Donner Lake? |
| Index Card 520 | This kind of country, then covered by ice and snow. Those starving Emer. experanced on the way down to Bear Valley. (any wounder they fell down?) |
| Index Card 521 | (Emer. Gap Tree) The only remaining tree, used at the time Emer. lowered covered wagons down steep <u>prescpine</u> , into Bear Valley over Emer. Gap Ridge, from Carpenter Flat. A block of wood weighing 150 lb. and iron chain as strap around this tree was kept here, markings are still visable. Rocks have been blasted against this tree as well, in R.R. construction? But chain marks are here. |
| Index Card 522 | (Lovers Leep) Strawberry Grade, Playcerville Route. |
| Index Card 523 | Monument erected where bandits help up Stage. Playcerville Route. |
| Index Card 524 | Old tree at ridge of Emer. Gap. Capt. Davis pointing out marks where chains were fastened to a wooden block of 150 lb to lower Emer. wagons into Bear Valley from Carpenter Flat on there way to Sutters Fort by way of Bear River. |
| Index Card 525 | One of the many camping places of partys going and coming between Donner Lake and Bear Valley. |
| Index Card 526 | Coming down to Lake Tahoe, over Playcerville Route, a view below from Summit. |
| Index Card 527 | I think this sciene is between Reno and Trucke, back up Trucke. |
| Index Card 528 | Sign, remaing marking of Emer. trail of 49. (Placerville Route) |
| Index Card 529 | Birds eye view of Lake Tahoe from Summit, Playcerville Route. |
| Index Card 530 | On the right side, going west of Summit Valley abouve Van Vorden Lake. (an old camping place) "Spring" |
| Index Card 531 | Along the summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 532 | Slipery rocks near top of Summit abouve Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 533 | Snow shide in the High Serrias abouve Donner Lake. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 534 | Tablet of Monument where hold of stage took place. Playcerville Route. |
| Index Card 535 | Slanting, slippery rocks found abouve Big Bend on the trail of partys, passing, up, and down, from Summit to Bear Valley. New Hampshire Rocks. |
| Index Card 536 | New Hampshire Rocks abouve Big Bend. When covered with ice and snow no wounder they were slipery for partys to walk over. |
| Index Card 537 | A chiley day, near where the shelteres of Reeds and others lived, starved and many died, Near the spot where that brave <u>Heroic</u> little <u>Lady Mrs. Geo. Donner</u> died. Donner Monutment. |
| Index Card 538 | That old house of a Goast town of '49. Sweetland. |
| Index Card 539 | Site of Graves cabin, Emigrant Trail. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 540 | (The rosebush still blooms) A little happy house of the '49 ' days, GostTown of Sweetland, Calif. Yuba Route. |
| Index Card 541 | A Mass home, built in 1852, Old people died, Everything about here remains as when they lived. Sweetland Gosttown of '49' days. May 1927 |
| Index Card 542 | The oldest couple now living at Downeville Calif. On our first trip up by way of Yuba Pass. |
| Index Card 543 | Old Massachusetts home at Sweetland, Calif. |
| Index Card 544 | Tamerack Flat on the Yuba where forest rangers picked up old pepper box pistol belonging to Donner Party. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 545 | Up Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 546 | Old bones at top of Summit Trail near tree, left of Cold Stream Trail to summit, at top of Pack Trail. June 19, 1927. |
| Index Card 547 | A like in Summit Valley. |
| Index Card 548 | On way where Donner party travelled to summit. June 14, 1927. |
| Index Card 549 | Route of Donner party at top of summit where some perished and relif came up. June 20, 1927. |
| Index Card 550 | Donner Lake from trail to Summit. June 20, '27. |
| Index Card 551 | This splendid old Couple we met up with at little old '49' town of Downeville, Calif. on the Yuba Route, (our first trip in). |
| Index Card 552 | The old Trail up Cold Stream. May 1927. |
| Index Card 553 | blank index card/no picture |
| Index Card 554 | Capt. Davis pointing out the way the immigrant wagons came down to Summit Valley in the old days. May 1927. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 555 | A very likely camping place above an old Pack Trail on top of Summit Ridge above Donner Lake. (Some very old marked stumps) |
| Index Card 556P | no data 1/5/28 |
| Index Card 557 | Bones on the Trail of the Donner Tragedy. |
| Index Card 558 | Old bones. |
| Index Card 559 | On the trail of the Donner Tragedy. May 1927. |
| Index Card 560 | Flooded ground. |
| Index Card 561 | Old bones found at top of old Pioneer Trail to left of Cold Stream Trail on top of Summit near tree. June 1927. |
| Index Card 562 | Up to Summit from Donner Lake. May 1927. |
| Index Card 563 | On top of Summit above Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 564 | On way to Summit from Donner Lake where relief came. June 20, 1927. |
| Index Card 565 | Up Cold Stream. |
| Index Card 566 | On top of Summit Ridge near Donner Peak. June 18, 1927. |
| Index Card 567 | One of small lakes at top of summit. May 1927. |
| Index Card 568 | Showing where old Emigrant Trail went over summit, at left of Cold Stream Trail. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 569 | The Barrier of the Sierras. "Between the Plains and the Western Ocean." May 1927. |
| Index Card 570P | neg ok |
| Index Card 571 | The Summit Barrier of the Sierras. |
| Index Card 572 | We found old anemal bones at top of Summit Ridge to left of Cold Stream on an old Pack Trail. |
| Index Card 573 | Where party passed to Summit from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 574 | A very Beautyfull Lake at the Summit on ridge, above Donner Lake that Emer. party experanced. "Beautyfull but Cruel" says Mary Graves Reed – Donner Party. |
| Index Card 575 | Up from Donner Lake where party crossed. |
| Index Card 576 | On the trail of the Donner Tragedy. On way up from Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 577 | Near Gammit Bridge to Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 578 | Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 579 | North shore of Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 580 | Donner Lake. |

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| | May, 1927. |
| Index Card 581 | Donner Lake. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 582 | Donner Lake and path of Donner party to Summit. May, 1927. |
| Index Card 583 | Graves of George Donner's party at Alder Creek Meadows. |
| Index Card 584 | Stumps, as they are today that were cut by the Donner party near the cabins of the Reeds – Keseberg & Murphys at Donner Creek Meadow. |
| Index Card 585-599 | all are blank index cards |
| Index Card 600 | Gravelly Ford, Nev. An the Humboldt River. |
| Index Card 601 | Gravelly Ford, Nev. The horses are crossing over the Ford that the emigrants & the R-D party crossed over in 1846. |
| Index Card 602 | Near an the Gravelly Ford, an Humboldt River, Nev.(The cut in the river bank in the center is the old emigrant road. |
| Index Card 603P | neg ok |
| Index Card 604 | The rising ground, where we found the two graves of emigrants buried in 1845-1846. The first grave the one uncovered was of some emigrant who came with the party that passed thruo there in 1844, most likely the Stevens - Murphy party - of which, the California section, Walker and Barthson comanded. ? Schullenberger was with this party and ? the cabin near Donner Lake in 1844 and wintered there. |
| Index Card 605 | Grave of John Snyder, Donner party. Immigrant graves at Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt. |
| Index Card 606 | In beautiful Eacho Canyon, Utah were Reed – Donner Party came through, Fremont and Mormons and early 49ers. |
| Index Card 607 | Down the Weber River, Wasatch Mountains. Fremont 1825/1845? Hastings 1846. |
| Index Card 608 | A very bad place when Hastings put wagons over a precipice here, where wagons had to be lowered by immigrants in 1846, near Devils Gate. The cause why Hastings advised the Donner Party to find another route to the South by way of East Canyon. The ledge has since been blown out to make way for Highway and Railroad. |
| Index Card 609 | On way up East Canyon where Reed Donner party went. |
| Index Card 610 | The Emer. Trail marker at FL. Bridger Wyh. Where Emer. parted both sides of Salt Lake Route. |
| Index Card 611 | Salt Canyon, up from East Canyon where Mr. Reed and Mr. Pike had such a hard time on horseback hunting a way over Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 612 | Pulpit Rock, so named by Brigham Young on way to Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 613 | On the place where Hastings left note, advising Donner party to go by way of East Canyon farther south from here. I am pointing to Weber pass and route Reed – Donner party took. |
| Index Card 614 | Route taken through East Canyon by Reed – Donner party. |
| Index Card 615 | Near town of Hennifer, Utah, where Donner party found message informing party to go down another route farther south which they did. From here their first troubles began. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 616 | The route up East Canyon where Reed-Donner party had such a hard time hacking their way through. |
| Index Card 617 | Down the beautiful Weber River where Hastings party had such a hard trip and advised Reed and Donner not to attempt passing down there, bu to take a more southerly route through East Canyon up over Little Mountain which they did. |
| Index Card 618 | Everybody and everything passes down this Weber Canyon today, the most beautiful route in the southwest. |
| Index Card 619 | East Canyon, Utah. Route of Donner Party over Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 620 | Devils Gate this place is now called; but who knows what those hardy pioneers called the place. This place had a steep precipice where Hastings had to lower their wagons over to get out of Weber canyon, therefore advising Donner party to go south by East Canyon. |
| Index Card 621 | Devils gate, Weber Canyon, route of Hastings party. "Vast perpendicular pillars of rock approached so closely that the river had barely space to flow between." Before improvements were by R.R. and highways this Weber river went over a precipice where wagons had to be lowered, but each year changes were taking place that was why Hastings advised the Donner-Reed party not to attempt following him. |
| Index Card 622 | Blank index card/no picture |
| Index Card 623 | Where Reed_Donner led to get up and over the Wasatch Mountains in 1846. |
| Index Card 624 | These conditions were about the same, when the Donner Party cut their way through brush and virgin trees, passing up to Little Mountain of the Weber Canyon. Trees then cut still remain. |
| Index Card 625 | On the way up the beautiful Wasatch mountains, where trail led. |
| Index Card 626 | The kind of places where Donner party had to take wagons in and up over the beautiful Wasatch Mountains in 1846. |
| Index Card 627 | Pulpit Rock. |
| Index Card 628 | Weber Pass: Fremont, 1845, Hastings 1846. Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 629 | Pulpit Rock, passed by all immigrants passing through Eacho Canyon, Utah. |
| Index Card 630 | East Canyon, branch from Weber River, that Donner party had taken to Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 631 | Meadows near town of Hennifer, where party found letter from Hastings, Weber Canyon above. Route of the Donner Party. Car is heading where party went south. |
| Index Card 632 | The route the Reed-Donner party went up East Canyon. |
| Index Card 633 | The trail up the East Canyon, Utah. Wasatch Mountains, Utah. |
| Index Card 634 | Pointing out the way, by East Canyon that Reed-Donner party took and was so long delayed. This is spot where note was found advising party not to follow down Weber River by Hastings. |
| Index Card 635 | Wasatch Mountains, near town of Morgan, Utah. Weber Canyon. |
| Index Card 636 | Mormon Trail over Little Mountain. |

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| Index Card 637 | From Hardscrable (of) Ridge, looking down Canyon towards Salt Lake where trappers and Indians passed over the Wasatch Mountains in early days. |
| Index Card 638 | East Canyon, route of the Donner party, looking back half way up. |
| Index Card 639 | Morgan's Reservoir. Route of the Donner party. On their way to Little Mountain at that time heavily timbered. 1846. |
| Index Card 640 | Place below town of Hennifer, Utah where Reed Donner party camped on way to new route over Little Mountains, today a reservoir dammed to hold water. |
| Index Card 641 | The East Canyon that Donner party cut their way many miles through and where Brigham Young followed them, settling Salt Lake City. |
| Index Card 642 | A very difficult passage up this East Canyon, help up the Donner party many days, cutting their way through until most of their grub was eaten up, to get over the beautiful Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 643 | The way up Lost Canyon on their way up East Canyon, Utah. |
| Index Card 644 | On way up East Canyon, where Donner party cut their way, over the Wasatch Range. |
| Index Card 645 | A condition prevailed in these virgin canyons in immigrant days that took men that were born for the purpose, cutting their way for heavy, loaded wagons. |
| Index Card 646 | The kind of hills these imigrants put their heavy, ox driven covered wagons over, in the good old days, when men were men. Utah, Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 647 | On the way up Little Mountain, Utah, where Donner party cut their way over the Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 648 | Quaking aspens in Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 649 | Down Weber Canyon, Utah. |
| Index Card 650 | On highway on old Emigrant Trail that mormons came to Salt Lake. Between Fort Bridger Wyoming and Salt Lake, Utah. |
| Index Card 651 | Small pretty valleys in East Canyon where Donner party camped on way through Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 652 | The last meadow camp of the Reed-Donner party before entering Canyon leading up to Little Mountain that they had to get over, to start down to Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 653 | Blank index card/ no picture |
| Index Card 654P | neg ok |
| Index Card 655 | First crossing over Weber River. The spot where Hastings left note in forked stick, advising party not to follow, but to go from here south to East Canyon which they did, hewing out a trail that afterwards was used by the Mormons to settle Salt Lake City. |
| Index Card 656 | Very steep ground had delayed them on passing up and over the Wasatch Range. |
| Index Card 657P | neg ok |
| Index Card 658 | Where Donner party passed over the Wasatch Mountains in 1846. |
| Index Card 659 | Way up East Canyon, where the Donner party cut their way over the Wasatch Range, and where Brigham Young followed the next season. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 660 | A very beautiful country they encountered on their route up and over the Wasatch Range into Salt Lake Valley, Utah. |
| Index Card 661 | Many difficulties were encountered by the Reed-Donner party to pass up and over the Wasatch Mountains in Utah into Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 662 | The kind of country up East of Canyon, where Reed-Donner party was delayed 24 days. |
| Index Card 663 | This beautiful canyon, they had hard work cutting their way up to top of high hills to get wagons over Wasatch mountains. |
| Index Card 664 | On their route up East Canyon that led over a high mountain to get into Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 665 | Part of old Fort Bridger. |
| Index Card 666 | Was rough going down Weber River. |
| Index Card 667 | This spot in Weber Canyon goes by the name of Devils Gate. A sheet of water was going over a precipice when Hastings took over 62 covered wagons; but advised the Donner party not to follow them. Highway and R.R. Goes through now. |
| Index Card 668 | Pretty meadows on the Weber River, Utah. Where immigrants parties camped. |
| Index Card 669 | Weber Canyon, Utah. The Devils Slide, when the Hastings Party passed. |
| Index Card 670 | blank index card/ no picture |
| Index Card 671 | An old emigrant trail crossing Desert Valley, Nev. Capt. Davis pointing out direction of trail. |
| Index Card 672 | Mr. Lee of Lee Center on Victory Highway, Big Bend of Humboldt River. Limerick Pass comes down opposite this place. Mr. Lee is holding saddle he picked up years ago along bones of a dead man near Limerick Pass, supposed to have been killed by Indians. |
| Index Card 673 | Old Dad Lee, Of Lee's Center, Nev. above Winnemucca, near Humboldt River. |
| Index Card 674 | Lee's Center Nev. This is Dad Lee, who founded the Pony Express saddle in Limerick (?) Pass, above his place, on the Humboldt River, above Winnemucca, Nev. |
| Index Card 675 | Lee's Center, Nev. This is Dad Lee, of Lee's Center Nevada. (see notes) |
| Index Card 676 | Lee's Center, Nev. on the Humboldt River, above Winnemucca, Nev. "Dad" Lee owns this place. He was active in building this first telegraph line from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Some time ago he picked up a saddle near a dead spot that had been ridden by a pony express rider. This was on Limerick(?) Mt. |
| Index Card 677 | All that is left of a Nevada home – steader's home on the old trail in Nevada. It is made of railroad ties & recap lumber. Small print. |
| Index Card 678 | French Ford – Winnemucca At town of Winnemucca, Nev. When the emigrant, forded . This place was then known as French Ford, on the Humboldt River. |

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| Index Card 679 | Humboldt River, near Gravelly Ford old markings still visible today where the emigrant wagons panned down the south bank of the Humboldt River, near Gavelly Ford. |
| Index Card 680 | Above Beowawee, Nev. "This cute little old grave yard on a rise, on the south side of the Humboldt River, abouve Beowawee, Nev. The cross of Lucuida Duncan can be readily seen. Many early emigrants are buried here – probably serveral – cares – but are unknown people today" C.D. |
| Index Card 681 | Above the Humboldt River looking back to the old Emigrant trail that is still in use, on the South bank. Emigrant graves – unknown – where the Lucuida Duncan cross is. |
| Index Card 682 | Immigrant graves on the Humboldt Rive. |
| Index Card 683 | A railroad passing into Palisade Canyon where the emigrants came down inot the Humboldt River that passes thro here. |
| Index Card 684 | After coming across Palisade Canyo, this is the spot the wagons forded, the first ford on the Humboldt River, to south side abouve Gravelly Ford. |
| Index Card 685 | A place where immigrants forded the Humboldt River on coming out by way of the Palisades in '49. |
| Index Card 686 | Just below Palisade Canyon where the emigrants forded after climbing those hills. |
| Index Card 687 | Site of old Ft. Ruby. This is the old parade ground where the cross is. (in Capt. Davis' print) The owner of this place now (1927) is Mrs. Toganimi – Overland Stage Route. |
| Index Card 688 | (Capt. Davis present) These unkown graves are Emer. bound down the Humboldt River, below the Gravelly Ford, on the South side. The large cross in rear is ok Lucuida Duncan 17 year old Emer. Trail |
| Index Card 689 | Emigrant Spring near Emigrant Pass, Nevada. |
| Index Card 690 | Mr. John Bieler of Carlin, Nevada. |
| Index Card 691 | Old freight wagon still is are near Cailin, Nevada. The ? was using the wagon had to haul a ? ? |
| Index Card 692 | Lower End of Emigrant Pass, Nev. Emmigrants used to have to pull their covered wagons over this hill in the old days. |
| Index Card 693 | Emmigrant Pass – Nev. On emmigrant trail – where the wagons were hauled down over this mountain. This scene today shows here the RR cuts thro with two tunnels and an impound Highway is the forground with modern bridges. |
| Index Card 694 | An old stage omnibus that was brought around Cape Horn, in good running order today. Owner Mr. Pewitt of Carlin, Nevada. |
| Index Card 695 | A scene in Weber Canyon, Utah. |
| Index Card 696 | Air mail station, Elko Nev. It was here that Capt. Daivs arranged for the cooperation of the flyers of the air mail to watch out for distress signals from him in case of trouble or disaster – a pre-arranged code was agreed upon, and every day the air men watched out for him, & often swooped down low to wave at him. |

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| Index Card 697 | A well preserved old timer living alongside old immigrant trail at Carlin, Nevada. Mr. J. Beiler. |
| Index Card 698 | Humboldt River, down from Palisade Mts, above Gravelly Ford. |
| Index Card 699 | Showing the coffin, made from parts of an emigrant wagon, that contains the remains of an emigrant that was buried these in 1846 – It is located near the bank of the Humboldt, about 1 mile from Gravelly Ford, Nev. out from the town of Beowawe. This is one of the two graves that Mr. Fulkerson knew years ago. This is the grave next to Snyders grave – This is the grave that the relics came from. Snyders grave lays 20 ft to the right. This one. Yoke iron with pin was found under a rock one this grave. |
| Index Card 700 | Mr. and Mrs. Fulkerson, Beowawe, Nevada. |
| Index Card 701 | Mr. and Mrs. Fulkerson in front of their house at Beowawe, Nev. This couple is the last of the old fashioned people here – they made the West – have reached old age together & have retired from active life. C.D. |
| Index Card 702 | Discovery of two graves (one is that of Suyder) at Gravelly Ford Nev. on the Humboldt River. Capt. Davis on left, Mr. Fulkerson on the right. It was Mr. Fulkerson who aided Capt. Davis in accurately locating the graves. Aug – 1927. |
| Index Card 703 | Mr. Fulkerson pointing out the way the emigrants went down the Humboldt River. |
| Index Card 704 | Mr. Fulkerson standing near graves, pointing out where both trails led. |
| Index Card 705 | Mr. Fulkerson of Beowawe pointing out graves of two immigrant near Gravelly Ford near the Humboldt River. |
| Index Card 706 | Mr. Fulkerson pointing out the lost grave, That we considered from a historical fact holds the remains of John Snyder, a very popular member of Donner Party. |
| Index Card 707 | A grave we opened of an immigrant that was buried at Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt, 20 feet from another. A yoke iron was under a head stone. One of there people is John Snyder, who was killed by James Reed of the Reed-Donner party, just above where he is buried. We went over the ground carefully and plainly marked is what made the row, just over the ridge leading down to Gravelly Ford. |
| Index Card 708 | Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt River. |
| Index Card 709 | Sheep fording the Humboldt River at Gravelly Ford, where Reed-Donner party passed over to south side. |
| Index Card 710 | Old whiskey barrel used by immigrants to carry water. Found on immigrant trail near Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt. |
| Index Card 711 | Gravelly Ford, on the Humboldt River. Looking back on trail of where traedy occurred. |
| Index Card 712 | Emigrant Gap, in the Palisade Mountains, Nevada at the head waters of the Humboldt River, where Reed-Donner came through to Gravelly Ford. |

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| Index Card 713 | Where Snyder was killed, last hard pull over sand hill to Gravelly Ford, top of hill. I am standing where Reed stood, at top of hill looking back on trail they came down over from Emigrant Gap. On other side of this hill was where tragedy took place. |
| Index Card 714 | I am standing in Humboldt River, at Gravelly Ford, at same time of year Donner Party crossed over in October 1846. |
| Index Card 715 | On the Emigrant Trail near Humboldt River, Nevada, place that caused argument and led to John Snyder's death. This is where wagons had to make the last hard pull before getting into Gravelly Ford. Reed stood, undoubtedly where I am standing when Snyder turned out of rut to left. |
| Index Card 716 | Emigrant Trail down the Humboldt River near Winnemecca, Nevada. |
| Index Card 717 | A way the immigrants came into the Humboldt River by way of the Palisades, Nevada. |
| Index Card 718 | Great Salt Lake Desert from State Highway line Nevada and Utah. |
| Index Card 719 | Lucinda Duncan's grave. |
| Index Card 720 | Graves of immigrants who died near Beowawe, Neava, near Humboldt River. |
| Index Card 721 | The grave of a very popular girl buried on a bank of the Humboldt River near town of Beowawe, Neavda. Lucinda Duncan. |
| Index Card 722 | The grave of an 16 year old Emer. girl near Beowawe Nev. 'Ther Virgins Grave' |
| Index Card 723 | A hill that led to the '49 trail. Humboldt River above Crow Ford, below Palisade Canyon. |
| Index Card 724 | The grave and cross of Lucinda Duncan was known many years ago as "The Birgin Grave" Below Gravelly Ford, near twon of Beowawe Nev. A 16 year old Emigrant Girl. |
| Index Card 725 | Where teams passed over to where Snyder was buried. |
| Index Card 726 | Blank Index Card/ No Picture |
| Index Card 727 | No Picture/ canceled |
| Index Card 728 | One of our many camping places, Big Bend of the Humboldt Rivier, Emile Coty writing a letter. |
| Index Card 729 | Blank Index Card/ No Picture. |
| Index Card 730 | Truckee River where Donner party crossed so many times to navigate up to Donner Lake to die. Along this river two men disappeared from this party. |
| Index Card 731 | A pet Pelican at Donner Lake. |
| Index Card 732 | On the spot of Trading Posts near Gravelly Ford, that was run by a French trader who traded oxen with immigrants and pine nuts with Indians. He obtained somehow oxen and cows and horses that at one sale brought him \$65,000 in Sacramento Valley. He was supposed to have killed many immigrants. |
| Index Card 733 | The Frenchman's Trading Post below Palisades on the Humboldt River, Nevada. |
| Index Card 734 | Old Trader sta. at Gravelly Ford, where a Frenchman traded fine mules and oxen, long before '49, long before 1846. |

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| Index Card 735 | Top of hill where Snyder was killed. Mr. Mulkerson pointing out where parties of immigrants split. Some went down North bank. Some went down the south bank, crossing at Gravelly Ford. That point ahead is why, trail right of it. Pointing out the nothern route. |
| Index Card 736 | Old Emigrant road, leading down to Gravelly Ford. Mr. Fulkerson pointing out ford. Where we picked up a few wagon parts on our way down. |
| Index Card 737 | Mr. Fulkerson at old trading post on Humboldt River below Palisades, Nevada. |
| Index Card 738 | Mr. Fulkerson pointing and standing on the Donner party trail, leading dwon to Gravelly Ford. This sand hill is where the argument was made, resulting in Mr. James Reed killing John Snyder. Heavy ruts here don't show. Sandy Hill, a pull up, then little to the left, then all down grade. |
| Index Card 739 | Mr. Fulkerson resting on old stone wall of an old trading station near Gravelly Ford. Not the nests on and in chimney. This place was run by a renegade Frenchman. On the trail of the Donner party. |
| Index Card 740 | Discovering John Snyder's grave near Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt River. |
| Index Card 741 | Mr. Fulkerson pointing out the way the Donner party passed down the Humboldt River. South of Gravelly Ford. |
| Index Card 742 | Pointing to Devil's Gate in the Weber Canyon, Hastings Party. "They had reached a place where vast perpendicular pillars of rock approached so closely on either side that the river had barely space to flow between." |
| Index Card 743 | The beautiful Weber River that was nearly impossible in 1846 when Hastings brought 65 emmigrant wagons thro to the floor of Slat Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 744 | James Reed's emigrant wagon headed for Sutter Fort – Found Silver Zone, Utah, in the Great Salt Lake desert. The ? had whiltered this wagon to take the oxen to water, when two oxen stampeded, crazed with thirst. James Reed & his family walked over 25 miles, nearly dieing to the nearest water at Pilent Peak Mt. Nev. 1846. |
| Index Card 745 | All the remains of a disaster that befell the D-R party in Sept. 1846. All that Capt. Davis found was the ?, oxen and part of wagon off Floating Island, Nev. Portions of what appeared like ? Houses were ?? Pieces of Reed's wagon scattered around. All had been covered with sand – as long as any obstacle reamined the sand would drift over it and gradually wear it down. (Sketching on back on the index card.) |
| Index Card 746 | Out on the Great Salt Lak Desert, off Granite Mt., Utah – Not identified as any particular animal – covered with encrusted sand and salt. This was dug up afterwards, but nothing of historical nature was found. |
| Index Card 747 | Off Silver Zone, Nev. The saddle is in back at the right. It was where the car stand that the wagons of the R & D party passed. This is as far east an the ?.S.L. ? that Capt. Davis could get his car. The ground is sandy al bare of ? but ? more and more ? & slippery as you ? into the desert – until no suote with choain & rope can the wheel, can go voer it. |

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Index Card 748

The vehicle sink into the soft, slushy, salty, slime. Cote and one of the ? in this picture. Ford got 3 miles an beyond this place.

Remains of buffalo gun found with James Reed wagon an in the Great Salt Lake Desert.
Gun was stcuk down, stoch was stuck down first. The top was several inches under the surface, and was located with a sounding rod. Apparently it was here that one of the Reed Party shoved this old gun, withit broken stoch down into the murk to ? that the road was impassable. The part in the back ground has the end burnt out. It had been counted with wagon at some time. It may have been used to suffat a courering. This ? is at Sutter's Fort.

Index Card 749

Where of the James Reed wagon that he abandoned while crossing the Great Salt Lake Desert, after his oxen had stampeded. It has laid ther for 82 years, exposed to the elements, but preserve by the salt. –
Site is off Silver Zone, Great Salt Lake Desert.

Index Card 750

Old Mormon Immigrant road in Weber Canyon, Utah. Down from Little Mountain.

Index Card 751

Disturbed soil condition on old Emigrant Trail that comes down from Little Mountain today.

Index Card 752

The Emigrant Trail over Little Mountain into Salt Lake Valley.

Index Card 753

Little Mountain, Utah, where immigrant wagons came over the top.

Index Card 754

Coming down Little. Mt. on the old Emer. Trail where the Reed-Donner first laid out in Fall of 1846.
The Mormons headed by Brigam Young came over and settled Salt Lake Valley the following year1 1847.
Showig the erosien today, "A Monument"

Index Card 755

Where immigrant loaded wagons were pulled "over the top" in 1846.

Index Card 756

Near top of Little Mountain, Utah, where trail leads down to floor of Salt Lake Valley.

Index Card 757

Remaining tree stumps on the Trail of the Reed_Donner party over Little Mountain, Utah.

Index Card 758

Old stump cut by immigrants in 1846 on Little Mountain, Utah.

Index Card 759

A fine photo showing how oxen wore away the top soil on the top of Little Mountain on the trail of the Donner party and trail of the Mormon party to Salt Lake Valley over the Wasatch Mountains.

Index Card 760

Wasatch Mountains, Utah.
The place where immigrants had a hard time getting wagons down.

Index Card 761

Deed marked Emigrant Trail over Little Mountain, Utah.

Index Card 762

Coming down over Emigrant Trail to Salt Lake Valley over Little Mountains that Reed-Donner party made in 1846.
October 1927.

Index Card 763

East Canyon, Utah. Trail of the Reed-Donner party.

Index Card 764

On the trial of the Reed-Donner party, Wasatch Mountains, Utah.

Index Card 765

Sheep on old Emigrant Trail where Reed Donner Party came down to Salt Lake Valley.

Index Card 766

Trail of Reed-Donner party down from Little Mountains, Utah.

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 767 | Down to Salt Lake Valley on the old Immigrant Trail. October. |
| Index Card 768 | Wasatch Mountains, Utah. On way up East Canyon from Weber River. |
| Index Card 769P | neg ok |
| Index Card 770 | Little Mountain, Wasatch Mountains, Utah. It took <u>men</u> to pull these teams up over the mountains to Salt Lake Valley in 1846. |
| Index Card 771 | The top of Little Mountain where Reed-Donner party came over in 1846. |
| Index Card 772 | Route leading down over Little Mountain into Canyon below. Wasatch Mountain, Utah. |
| Index Card 773 | Little Mt. showing valley below, on there way up to top. The valley they left shows where Emer. cmae down from the left from over Big. Mt. |
| Index Card 774 | On the way up to top of Little Mountain from Mt. Dell, Utah. |
| Index Card 775 | Wasatch Mountains, Utah, down from top of Little Mountain where Reed-Donner party came to Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 776 | Distant canyon where Reed-Donner party had to pass down canyon. |
| Index Card 777 | Route the Reed-Donner party passed down from Little Mountain to Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 778 | The route over Little Mountain. |
| Index Card 779 | Big Mountain, near where Reed-Donner party passed over to Salt Lake Valley in 46 & 47. Wasatch Mountains. |
| Index Card 780 | Up Weber Canyon, Wasatch Mountains, Utah. Immigrant Trail, Fremont 1845, Hastings 1846. |
| Index Card 781 | The Immigrant Trail up Little Mountain where Reed Donner party came into Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 782 | On the way up East Canyon, Wasatch Mountains, Utah. |
| Index Card 783 | On the Reed-Donner trail, Wasatch Mountains, Utah. |
| Index Card 784 | Down Weber Canyon where immigrants went through. Hastings Party, 1846, Fremont 1845. Wasatch Mountains, Utah. |
| Index Card 785 | This is the Emer. Trail coming down to Salt Lake City, that was blazed by those Brave Heroic, people on the Reed – Donner Party of 1846. Followed the next year 1847 by Brigam Young, and his brave Pioneer followering, settling S.L. Valley. |
| Index Card 786 | Wasatch Moutains, Utah. The wagons of the Reed_Donner party were taken over this steep mountain into Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 787 | Nice, smooth going for Immigrant wagons over top of Little Mountain, 1846. |
| Index Card 788 | Over Little Mountain. |
| Index Card 789 | On the way down the old Emigrant Trail over Little Mountain, Utah. |
| Index Card 790 | Little Mountain, Utah. Nice pretty going over old Emigrant Trail. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 791 | Emigrant Trail leading up to Little Mountain, East Canyon, Utah. |
| Index Card 792 | Down from Little Mountain to Sale Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 793 | Mr. Tugini who owns many old immigrant wagon on the site of old Fort Ruby – Nev. Overland Stage Route. 1927. |
| Index Card 794 | Boyd Station, Nev. This is the old Pony Express Station on the Overland Stage Trail. Near Black Rock between Willows Springs and Black Rock. |
| Index Card 795 | Near Gravelly For, on the Humboldt River, near where lies buried John Snyder, who was killed by Reed in a quarrel there during the passage of the R – D party in '46. |
| Index Card 796 | Mrs. Torginini and her son who owns old site of Fort Ruby and are much interested in preserving old wagons they own of the past. Overland Stage route. |
| Index Card 797 | Mr. Scott and his men, owners of Fort Hallock, Nevada. The two men on the side of Mr. Scott were born there, soldiers sons. |
| Index Card 798 | A pony where it fell in days of Pony Express. Rider killed by Indian. |
| Index Card 799 | Showing the immigrant road passing into landslide at Willow Creek Canyon, Nevada where unknown travellers perished some 50 years ago. |
| Index Card 800 | This girl was born at Fort Shelburne and has a telegraph instrument that was picked up at Stage Station there. Mrs. Cooley, Ruby Valley, Nevada. |
| Index Card 801 | Fine old man, Mr. Yates of Lake Point, Utah, showing us where that member of the ill fated Donner-Reed lay buried (Luke Maloran.), the first Mason buried in Utah. |
| Index Card 802 | Immigrant boy that was buried between Elko and Carlin on present site of Nevada State Industrial School, near main Emigrant Trail. |
| Index Card 803 | Overland Express Station at Fish Springs Mountains on Edge of Great Salt Lake Desert, Utah. |
| Index Card 804 | An old Overland Stage Station at Fish Spring Mountains on the edge of Great Salt Lake Desert. |
| Index Card 805 | These three men, the oldest representation of Wendoner, Utah, assisted Capt. Davis in his work on the G.S.L. Desert 1 Mumsey 2. Mumsey 3 Brothers ? Rt. 3. Gene Mumsey |
| Index Card 806 | Happy Jack Rice on Overland Stage Trail at Tippetts Ranch, Nevada. |
| Index Card 807 | Tragedy Mountain. Willow Creek Canyon, near Wells, Nevada. |
| Index Card 808 | no negative |
| Index Card 809 | Cherry Creek P.O. Nevada. These men helped us in the search for historical date. Overland Trail. |
| Index Card 810 | Remains of wild horse through Nevada. |
| Index Card 811 | Granite Mt. Spring – This is a wonderful spring that the R – D party missed On their way over the Great Salt Lake Desert. Fremont also missed this spring, and by missing it, lost many of his horses & mules, & just escaped disaster for his entire party. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 812P | neg ok |
| Index Card 813 | ? to neg. Mr & Mrs. Yates of Lake Point – Utah – They showed Capt. Davis where Luke Hollious grave was – |
| Index Card 814 | A pair of fine old time Mormons, Mr. Stromburg and Mr. Hudson, of Grantsville, Utah. They gave us much help on records. |
| Index Card 815 | The present town of Granitevill or was formerly known as “Twenty Wells” in emigrant days. This is the edge of Grantville. The wells are all thro the town. Cody is standing at the well emigrant stopping place. |
| Index Card 816 | That fine old Mormon, Mr. Yaterm who when a child knew where two immigrant graves were and that persons were buried in 1846 before they themselves arrived with Brigham Young. |
| Index Card 817 | Granite Mt. Spring Utah on the Beckworth trail – about hald way across the Great Salt Lake Desert. This is where Bridger and Vasquez meant the R-D party should go, bu they missed it – Had they found it, it would have saved them untold suffering .. where the car is, is where the trading station was located years ago – the water was brought down in wooden pipes. This flat was a favorite emmigrant cmapingplace. Many emmigrants passed over to this spot from Fish Springs. This is the cove ? points of Grantie Mt. It does not look as tho there could be any posiability of water there as nothing grows here & that is what fouled the R-D party. In early days many emmigrants used this short cut to Sald Hill. The ? cut off now comes here. |
| Index Card 818 | Great Salt Lake Desert – Nest of birds found on the desert 20 mile from the Dugway Mts. They (eagles, etc.) build was out here so that their young may have protection from coyotes and other animals. |
| Index Card 819 | On Great Salt Lake Desert – These are the natural graves of two of the Reed oxen, found 40 miles south of where the Reed Wagons were abandoned in the desert, they having stumbled from there, seeking water to the south, this was a yoke of oxen, still held together by yoke until they perished out in the hot desert. All told, Capt. Daivs found seven of these oxen, but only in this case were two found ? together. After their death, the mouister from their decaying carcasses collected the salt & sand, layer after layer, until it had covered them with a solid ? some 3 ft deep – In time this was eroded by wind and rain some six inches or more. The have over formed in good stah of presentation. Two broken up and damp a ? no bones were brough in. The yoke and iron ? were masses of damp dust and rust. Desert sage bush had grown over these graves. |
| Index Card 820 | Near Dugway Mt. not far from Black Rock – This is an old Overland Stage Station. |
| Index Card 821 | The grave of an immigrant boy that has had the best of care for many years, on thee site of Nevada Industrial School near Elko. |
| Index Card 822 | Willow Creek Canyon – showing parts of wagons still in the debris. |
| Index Card 823P | neg ok |
| Index Card 824 | Near Cherry Creek, looking towards Eagan Canyon. |
| Index Card 825 | Near Hastings Pass, Utah. This is the palce where the R –D party took on their last water, just before starting to cross the 80 miles of barren desert. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| | Fremont also watered at this Spring just before crossing the desert in 1844 – when Capt. Davis was there a dead cow was floating in the spring – (shown in lower right – corner of photo) |
| Index Card 826 | These are the ranchers that aided Capt. Davis in his search for the Reed wagons off Silver Zone, Nev – Utah – on the Great Salt Lake Desert. |
| Index Card 827 | This fireplace is kept just as when Pony Express was in operation by Mrs. Georgette at 8 mile ranch, Nevada. Overland Stage route. |
| Index Card 828 | Capt. Davis at the grave of John Snyder, near Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt River, Nev. Snyder was killed by Reed of the R-D party in a quarel in 1846 near this spot. |
| Index Card 829 | A ? found on the Great Salt Lake Desert, off Granite Mt coay. |
| Index Card 829* | Black Rock Springs – Utah. The grave of an Immigrant boy that was killed here while the wagon train was resting – Mr. Yates located the place from memory as he first saw it when a small boy and it was vividly impressed on his mind. |
| Index Card 830 | Grave of Luke Holaras – a member of the R-D-party who was buried here at Lake Pointe in 1846. It was identified by Mr. Yates, who first saw it as a young boy – this ground was ? up some 40 years ago. (Mr. Yates stands on the left, Capt. Davis is kneeling on the right). |
| Index Card 831 | Near Calleo () Nevada. Six mile Ranch This is Mr. Tripp – a mormon ranchie who gave much data. 1927. |
| Index Card 832 | George Morehouse, at his ranch near Callou () Nev. on the Overland trail – He is a Mormon ranchie, who gave valuable data on the old trail. 1927. |
| Index Card 833 | Old immigrant wagon that was left at old Fort Ruby when the U.S. soldiers came. It is still in use, and the only one in the world Today (?) It is the property of Mr. Tognini – Overland Trail – Nevada. 1927. |
| Index Card 834 | Site of the Overland Stage Station in Ruby Valley, near Fort Ruby, Nev. |
| Index Card 835 | This Lady is the proprietor of a store of a store in an old Pny Express Station at Willow Springs, Nev. Overland Stage Trail. (see notes for name) |
| Index Card 836 | All that remains of ? famouse stage at old Fort Ruby, Nev. Mrs. Tognini and son, owners of property are in photo. Was an old overland stage, a mud wagon – now used as chicke roost at Ft. Fuby. |
| Index Card 837 | Mrs. Bensouis Ranch in Rbuy Valley, near Ruby Lake – Capt. Davis is standing on an old immigrant wagon, which is still in fair condition today. Overland Stage Trail 1927. |
| Index Card 838 | Ft. Halleck – This is all that remains of the orginal Fot Halleck. Mr. Scoot, who owns the property, had promised Capt. Davis to preserve this old ruin from further destruction – Overland Stage Trail – Nevada. |
| Index Card 839 | Old Fort Halleck, Nev. A portion of the wall of the old Fort that Mr. Scott, the owner of the property, has promised Capt. Davis that he will preserve as a landmark. It is near Harrison (?) pass, in the Ruby Mts., Nev. |
| Index Card 840 | Mrs. Bensouis Ranch – in Ruby Valley where many old immigrant wagons were left many years ago. Overland Stage Trail. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 841 | Solduro, Nev. Mr. and Mrs. Lymus, who are in charge of the works at Soldura, Nev. They assisted in packing the large box of relics sent here to the Fort – (The Reed wagon, etc.) (This box weighed over half a ton.) |
| Index Card 842 | Willow Creek Canyon – Nev. ? out human, horse & dog & cat horses by Capt. Davis and Cote in 1927. |
| Index Card 843 | Old Fort Shellbourne, Nev. Showing wall of old Fort. Overland Stage Trail. |
| Index Card 844 | Hastings Well, Butte Valley, Nev. “ We had hard time getting wate enough to explore the next range and had to come back here twice” Capt. D. 60 ft deep – Capt. D had to come way back from the distant point on the ?. Wind was blowing in ? – and very cold weather. (Capt. Does not think it belonged to the old Hustings.) Well has never abandoned Distant mountains on Equa range of mts. |
| Index Card 845 | Old Fort Halleck All that remains of a building of the old fort. |
| Index Card 846 | Old Fort Schellbourne, Nev. Remains of a building there. |
| Index Card 847 | Where Capt. Davis piched up an old emigrant iron pot, near Palisade, near Humboldt river, Nev. |
| Index Card 848 | Eight mile ranch – Mr. georgetta, who owns the property, formuly an Overland & Pony Express station, is holding the old tea kettle in front of the original fireplace, which he has kept just as he found it and will preserve it as a landmark. |
| Index Card 849 | Willow Springs Canyon – where a train of immigrants was wiped out by a landslide some 50 years ago. Between Wells and Elko, Nev. |
| Index Card 850 | Mr. Waymen – fine old timer of Wendover, Utah who came ther by bull team. |
| Index Card 851 | A fort at Burut station Wher camp tenders put up gallant fight against the ? Equa Town. See notes. This shows the port holes – this fort was built in addition to the pony express station. |
| Index Card 852 | East Canyon, Utah. Showing conditions that prevailed there when the R-D party had to cut their way thro up over and down to Salt Lake Valley, Utah – Cote in photo. |
| Index Card 853 | An old couple has this spot as their home – they had cats & about 14 sheep – and two old ponies. They said that maybe they moved go to Colorado room, but Capt. Davis says they will probably live here on this spot till they die. No names would be given, nor would they pose for photos. Had nothing – seemed resigned to fate, but happy. Came from Wells. |
| Index Card 854 | Willow Creek Canyon, Nevada – This is the lady, who had the strange dream about the landslide near Willow Canyon, where a party of immigrants was wiped out by a rock-slide. |
| Index Card 855 | Gravelly Ford – on Humboldt River, Nev. |
| Index Card 856 | (?) Rock Station, Nev. This is the little Fort where a terrific fight occurred when the camp tenders were attacked by the Indians. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

Index Card 857

They put up a hard fight, but were all finally killed and were buried later in a spot close by this building.
Overland Stage Route – right below ? Canoyon – It was here that the Indians ? Equa attacked – (see notes)

Index Card 858

Ibinpack, Nev.
Photo of Mr. McCudry, who lives 14 miles west of Ibinpack, Nev. Fine old american that helped make the west and ? gave valuable data.

Index Card 859

Near Ft. Halleck – Old Pony Express Station – Overland Trail, Nev.

On the old immigrant trail in Nevada.
Part of Ft. Halleck, showing old foundations. There is part of a wall standing among the trees. A Mr. Scott lives in a putty home in among the trees. It overlooks a very beautiful valley.

Index Card 860.

Near Ft. Halleck, Nev.
Old storehouse not far from the Fort.

Index Card 861

Eagan Ranch – Nev.
Passing over the Eagan Ranch on the old immigrant trail – it is many miles from the present day roads.

Index Card 862

Nevada. Crossing on the long valley of Nevada on the old Immigrant Trail – near Hasting's Well, Butte Valley – Nev.

Index Card 863

Fish Mts. Utah. A salty spring near Fish Mts, Utah, on the edge of the Great Salt Lake Desert, near the Nevada line. Located on map – This water is steaming hot. It was way out from here that Tripp found the two oxen years ago. Capt Davis is pointing out the direction of the find with his left hand. The distant mountain on the right is Granite Mt.

Index Card 864

Some old relics recovered from Death Valley. Showing part of the wagons brought in from Lost Wagons.

Index Card 865

One of those extinct volcanoes that are encountered near Death Valley, Nevada.

Index Card 866

The place were those immigrants drank water then sickened and died, drinking this water from hold in ground. Death Valley.

Index Card 867

Leaving the Funeral Mountains about to cross over floor of Death Valley.

Index Card 868

This wagon was found at a place known as "Lost Wagons" far over on the north side of Death Valley, near Funeral Range.

Index Card 869

On our way from Los Vegas, Nevada to Death Valley.

Index Card 870

Old Bones found near tree on Summit near Emigrant trail at top of left of Cold Stream Trail.

Index Card 870

Death Valley greets one, "Come again, we'll get you yet."

Index Card 871

An old stage at Grapevine, Canyon, Death Valley, California. Mr. Johnson knew palace. Death Valley Scotty.

Index Card 872

Where the Donner Party passed down to Salt Lake Valley an the old emigrant trail in Utah.

Index Card 873

Death Valley
Coming down to Death Valley thro the Funeral Mts. To Grapevine Canyon.

Index Card 874

A volcano near Funeral Range above Death Valley.

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 875 | One of the several extinct volcanoes rising up on the way down from St. George. |
| Index Card 876 | An old wagon brought to Bungalow City from "Lost Wagons" Death Valley, Calif. |
| Index Card 877 | Mr. Huntsman of Enterprise, Utah, showing me where the waters start in his State to run off both ways to the Virgin River of the Colorado R. to and thru S.L. Valley into Utah Lak, thence into Salt Lake. |
| Index Card 878 | Part of old freight wagon bound between Los Vegas and Death Valley. |
| Index Card 879 | Mr. Huntsman showing me the way Mr. John D. Lee was executed by U.S. troops after Lee built his coffin, kneeling over same, was shot and buried alongside of those poor immigrant 120 souls. |
| Index Card 880 | Egan Pass, Nev. This is Cherry Cuck City. Small towns lie scattered on these barren spots in the most unexpexted places. Lohite pine Co Nev. |
| Index Card 881 | Old wagon found at "Lost Wagons" Death Valley. |
| Index Card 882 | Mr. and Mrs. Huntsman, founders of the pretty town of Enterprise, Utah. These fine Mormon people helped us to the truth of that horror at Mountain Meadows just below this town. Mr. Huntsman was present when Lee was executed. |
| Index Card 883 | Captain Davis sinking pipe down where wagons lie buried of those unfortunate immigrants who attempted to cross over the floor of this terrible waste. Wagons are some 11 ft. below surface. A waterhole near here caused many deaths. Death Valley. |
| Index Card 884 | These kind of barrens are experienced on way to Grapevine Canyon, to pass down into Death Valley. |
| Index Card 885 | Beauty in Hell Hole, Death Valley. |
| Index Card 886 | On the desert abouve Death Valley on way to Grapevine Canyon. |
| Index Card 887 | Death Valley – "Waiting for the next unexpected visitor with a |
| Index Card 887P* | neg ok. |
| Index Card 888 | All were gathered up and buried in one grave, by shocked and saddened Mormons. They feared for their pitiful homes of their people, who as a whole, were humand beings and not butchers. And so happened their church had no part in the slaughter of these people. |
| Index Card 889 | The spot where 120 people lie buried, Meadow were killing took place above St. George. Mr Hunstman and Capt. Davis. |
| Index Card 890 | An old freight wagon, lying alongside of road, a ghost of the old mining boom. |
| Index Card 891 | A weird waste of flat land and desert mountains from east to west that immigrants encountered on their weary way to California. In many places, there was scant feed and no water. |
| Index Card 892 | Two very valuable relics picked up in Death Valley and are now in possession of owner of Bungalow City. Lost by immigrants. |
| Index Card 893 | Part of the "Hell Hole" Death Valley, where immigrant party passed on. |
| Index Card 894 | An abandoned steam tractor left when Ryolite blew up and was used to haul ore wagons over Panamint Mountains. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

Index Card 895

On the hard surface of the upper desert, on way to Grapevine Canyon to go on down to Death Valley.

Index Card 896

Old Fort Cameron, Utah.

Index Card 897

An old fort on outskirts of Los Vegas, Nevada, Fort Stewart. Should be a City Park, two buildings still standing.

Index Card 898

Mr. Huntsman, showing us the way immigrants passed down this meadow where they were attacked and all killed but infants.

Index Card 899

Extinct volcanoes, back of Funeral Mountains, Nevada.

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 900 | A splendid exhibit of an extinct volcano on way to Death Valley. |
| Index Card 901 | The place where unknown immigrants are buried. Death Valley. |
| Index Card 902 | Coming through the Funeral Range into Death Valley. |
| Index Card 903 | Old emigrant trail that lead out – over the desert mountain ranges from Long Valley, Nev. from East to West. White Pine Community. |
| Index Card 904 | On our passage, out of Funeral mountains into Death Valley. |
| Index Card 905 | Pretty trees were planted by soldiers of old Fort Cameron, Utah. |
| Index Card 906 | Old Fort Cameron, Utah. This place should be taken over at once by the State and preserved. Property can be bought for \$20,000, 14 buildings and that beautiful schoolhouse seen on end of photo, splendid grounds. |
| Index Card 907 | Old Fort Cameron, Utah. “Old trails of the West.” |
| Index Card 908 | The only soldiers that are at old historic Fort Cameron, Utah, today are cattle. |
| Index Card 909 | An old Mormon Fot, erected to defend themselves from hostile Indian attacks. Cove Fort. |
| Index Card 910 | Cove Fort, built for the protection of Mormon settlers against Indians. |
| Index Card 911 | Old Mormon Fort. |
| Index Card 912 | Buildings in old Fort Cameron, Utah. Should be preserved as a mermorial. |
| Index Card 913 | Officers buildings at old Fort Cameron, Utah. |
| Index Card 914 | Old Cove Fort, built by the Mormon settlers for defense agaist Indians. |
| Index Card 915 | This fine monument was erected by the Mormons of Utah in honor of those brave pioneers who came here and made their homes and ranches. Also all others aside from the Mormon faith ax a united movement on their part; but sad to relate the old hatred springs up unexpected among many people of today. Erected on the old Fort Cove grounds of Ft. Cameron in front of the pretty schoolhouse. |
| Index Card 916 | Old trails of the West. |
| Index Card 917 | Cover Fort, inside of this old Mormon Fort. |
| Index Card 918 | This tablet lies deserted by all under the stars and sky, sunshine and dark, set out in good, simple faith by a brave people in the eyes of God. “Lest we forget Humanity” and always striving for the better life, at all times forgetting that all the while the God they are seeking is within ourselves, conscious of right and wrong. Principle and honesty is their aim. |
| Index Card 919 | A line of offiver’s buildings on the grounds of old Fort Cameron, Utah. |
| Index Card 920 | Old Fort Steward, Nev. lying within the confines of the city of Las Vegas, Nev. |
| Index Card 920P* | neg ok |
| Index Card 921 | A water hole in Death Valley where immigrants drank and were made sick. Many died near here. Check up on 920 |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 921P* | neg ok |
| Index Card 922 | The upper desert above Death Valley, above the Funeral Range, pointing out way to Grapevine Canyon. |
| Index Card 923 | Death Valley On our way down thro the Funeral Range, to Grapevine Canyon, Death Valley. |
| Index Card 924 | Many of these barren spots are encountered, on way on north side going to Death Valley. |
| Index Card 925 | An old immigrant trail today over the desert mountains. |
| Index Card 926 | A weird spot in Death Valley where immigrants died. |
| Index Card 927 | Place in Death Valley where lost wagons of those immigrants are supposed to be buried. |
| Index Card 928 | These two gentlemen helped to arrange some plan that a monument should be erected in memory of those immigrants that were killed here, that the people of Utah can meet here with the people of California and settle a terrible stain on younger generations forever, in Utah. Mr. Lytle and Mr. Huntsman, owners of meadows. |
| Index Card 929 | Mr. Huntsman of Enterprise, Utah, showing how, as immigrants passed down through Meadow, on a given signal, white men and Indians jumped up and killed 120 people only sparing 17 infants whom they brought up in kindness. |
| Index Card 930 | It would have been possible for those immigrants to have held out days if not weeks in this position. Lee did not want to delay and have his people killed in a long fight, so he worked a dastardly plan under a flag of truce, that won (?) Riflemen kept firing on immigrant camp from high places. |
| Index Card 931 | The way the poor, defenceless immigrants passed unsuspected to their deaths. |
| Index Card 932 | We are on the immigrant trail, improvised fort where these people stood ready to defend themselves; but were fooled by John D. Lee coming up from where the Indians and a few white men, lay ready to attack them, some 400-500 strong. Lee came in under a flag of truce and they lay down their arms. |
| Index Card 933 | An accident that happened just out of Las Vegas, Nevada. This car driven at high speed with young men, on a hunting trip, evidently asleep or drinking turned over twice, killing driver but others escaped, also many ducks. On a fine, wide improved highway. |
| Index Card 934 | On our way from Los Vegas to Death Valley. |
| Index Card 935 | A volcano found between St. George, Utah and Los Vegas, Nevada. |
| Index Card 936 | A part of Death Valley, where immigrant party passed. |
| Index Card 937 | Passing down to Grapevine Canyon to Death Valley. |
| Index Card 938 | East Canyon where Reed-Donner party passed up to Little Mountain, spot where Hastings left note in stick. |
| Index Card 939 | Mountain Meadow – site of Mormon Massacre- Fight was on the flat, on the hill just above is where the Indians & Mormons shot at the emigrants before the Final Massacre. |
| Index Card 940 | We encountered some cattle being driven over to the Funeral Range above Death Valley. ("Guess they are going to pasture them on loose rocks?") |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 941 | Old Emigrant Trail on way to Mohave, Calif. |
| Index Card 942 | These hills surrounding these immigrants were covered with Indians some four to five hundred and their white leaders. Mr. John D. Lee showed how impossible the odds against them were. On his demand, they lay down their arms, surrendering under a flag of truce, then bare handed were slaughtered. |
| Index Card 943 | Blank Index Card/ No picture. |
| Index Card 944 | The way down Grapevine Canyon to Death Valley. ("Death Valley Scotty.") |
| Index Card 945 | Exploring floor of Death Valley where immigrants passed and near where many perished. |
| Index Card 946 | Near Stovepipe Wells. The beautiful wife of "Skidoo George" of Death Valley. Going to the Pines on high mountains to gather pine nuts, an old custom. |
| Index Card 947 | "Skidoo George" and his beautiful wife, on their way out of Death Valley. |
| Index Card 948 | Pushing iron pipe through ground to locate whereabouts of immigrant wagons buried some 6 to 11 feet in depth. Death Valley. |
| Index Card 949 | Where I picked up an old iron pot and where immirgrants perished, near posion water hole in Death Valley. |
| Index Card 950 | This spot is only marked by a loose bunch of rocks, in memory of 120 pioneers that were killed here, on their way to California. Mountain Meadows, Utah. |
| Index Card 951 | What rains are doing to the only remaining stone pile where immigrants lie buried. Mountain Meadows near Cedar City, Utah. |
| Index Card 952 | Mr. Huntsman, showing how those immigrants bodies lay scattered over one mile square here. When citizens of Cedar City came up three days after collecting them and burying them all in one large grave. Mountain Meadows, Utah. |
| Index Card 953 | Mountain Meadow, Utah. Mr. Lytle standing on site of where California Pioneers fought, before surrendering to John D. Lee. |
| Index Card 954 | Near Death Valley, California. Pointing to where Jay Hawker, immigrant passed through. |
| Index Card 955 | Mr Huntsman of Enterprise, showing the great erosion of soil, that has taken place by heavy rains changing the present landscape how in the last 60 years. The hill in front was this Fort. Only a very shallow creek flowed along here then, lined on one side by trees and brush, here the Indians concealed themselves, jumping out and killing passing unarmed immigrants as they passed unsuspecting. |
| Index Card 956 | A scene that hose immigrants experienced when sick and dying in Death Valley. |
| Index Card 957 | Old Mormon, (Cove Fort) built to protect themselves against Indian attacks (inside) |
| Index Card 958 | Beautiful, sad and neglected grounds of proud old Fort Cameron, Utah. |
| Index Card 959 | A street at Ft. Cameron, Utah. |
| Index Card 960 | A street and view of buildings of Old Fort Cameron, Utah. This place should be preserved as a memorial by the State of Nevada |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| | with the cooperative land mark organization of sister states and Federal government at once. |
| Index Card 961 | One of these springs where immigrants of long ago drank and died of dysentery. Death Valley. |
| Index Card 962 | Passing out of Death Valley. |
| Index Card 963 | This beautiful school house abandoned, principally owing to that terrible tragedy at Mountain Meadow, Utah. |
| Index Card 964 | McCurdy Tonight They have lived in the West all their lives. Capt Davis says "They are two grand old men, they make the West, & have lived in Nevada all their ? lives." (see notes about me and brother swimming river in Civil War- He is one with whiskers.) |
| Index Card 965 | A promiment make recognized by the early immigrant & explores as marking the last water place on pass out on the barren desert of 80 miles to Pilot Peak Mt. Near Hastings Pass, out from ? Springs – Sept. 1927. |
| Index Card 966 | Three cowpinchers who helped Capt. Davis in determining the where abouts of the R-D party wagons off the Silver Zone district. Silver Zone is from the name of a Silver mine on the Nevad side of the line, and now applies to the section extending to the Western edge and portions of th Great Salt Lake Desert. Ranchers (these men) are from Pilot Peak Springs. 3 of thou who helped on the desert search – (Check up on notes 3 brothers, 4 ?) Capt Davis does not remember which camp is ? on McCurdy? In the rear is Pilot Peak – The man at the left is pointing towards Hastings Pass, Parts of Donner wagons were found near here. This is right on the edge of their ranch. |
| Index Card 967 | Silver Island district. Looking out (east) beyond Silver Island to where the Reed-Donner Party had their trouble. They passed over 80 miles of desert waste to this point, which is where the Reed family walked to after having to abandon their wagons in the desert. (Sept. 1927) |
| Index Card 968 | Emigrant Gap – in the Palisades above the Humboldt River, where many emigrants passed. |
| Index Card 969 | One of the first homes to be built by the Mormon settles in the vicinity of "Twenty Wells" – which is now called Grantsville, Utah. |
| Index Card 970 | Willow Creek Canyon – Nev Looking down valley from where the Immigrants were killed by land slide. |
| Index Card 971 | Willow Creek Canyong tragedy, near Wells, Nev. |
| Index Card 972 | Stone Fort where men were buried The stones mark the spot Below "Bloud Canyon" above Gold Hill out from Ibapale – between Ibapole and Willow Springs – Utah – This is the Rock Station. It is called Burnt Station. |
| Index Card 973 | Home of Mr. McCurdy, near Ibapale, Nev. on old Overland Trail. Capt. Davis standing on right. |
| Index Card 974 | On Victory Highway. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| | <p>The man is pointing south, where, some 12 miles distant, some fresh water can be had on at mountain spring called Reddings Spring.</p> <p>Some immigrant trains passed that way from out of Skull Valley in the early days – 1846</p> <p>This is the Service Station near Cedar Mts. It was put here that the R-D party came to after giving on the distance to the springs near Josepa, just before crossing over the desert to Pilot Peak.</p> |
| Index Card 975 | <p>Willow Creek Canyon Tragedy.</p> <p>Remains of human, dog, cat, and horse bones discovered by Capt. Davis on his visit there.</p> <p>Seven miles above Well, Nev. Sept. 1927</p> |
| Index Card 976 | <p>Showing how this man (see notes) hauls free water to a spot on the Victory Highway near where the R-D party crossed to, and down and out to the Desert in 1846 – in route to Pilot Peak Mt. Hauled water from?</p> |
| Index Card 977 | <p>Trap for catching wild horses in the center of Long Valley, Nev. Aug – 1927</p> |
| Index Card 978 | <p>Capt. Davis pointing out Immigrant trail near Dugway Mt. Overland Stage Route – Sept 1927</p> |
| Index Card 979 | <p>Fish Springs, Nev.</p> <p>This is the old Immigrant camp ground on the old Beckwourth and Overland Stage Trails.</p> |
| Index Card 980 | <p>The lady who dreamed of the Willow Creek Canyon tragedy. Sept '27 (see notes)</p> |
| Index Card 981 | <p>Shore of Great Salt Lake near where emigrants parties came on the south side of the lake in 1846.</p> |
| Index Card 981* | <p>Shore of the Great Salt Lake near where emigrants party came on south side in 1846.</p> |
| Index Card 982 | <p>In the Silver Zone region of Nevada & Utah. The man is pointing the direction of the D R party wagon train trail.</p> |
| Index Card 983 | <p>Wells, Nevada, from the West Sept. 1927</p> |
| Index Card 984 | <p>Near Dugway Mts. Utah. Remains of horse are Overland Stage route – Sept 1927.</p> |
| Index Card 985 | <p>Looking East on Victory Highway towards Hastings Pass.</p> <p>The Reed Donner party came over this on their way across to Pilot Peak. This view is taken looking east towards Low Utah. Just around the bend a few miles is Delle, Utah.</p> |
| Index Card 986 | <p>An unknown mark on the desert. The bones of a Pony Express pony, possibly killed by Indians.</p> |
| Index Card 987 | <p>Spot where wagons of Donner Party passed around South of Great Salt Lake – in 1846 – it is in the vicinity of Twenty Wells, Grantsville – Utah.</p> |
| Index Card 988 | <p>Over the many waste stretched, encountered their days, caused by over stocking in the past, many such palces now exist in Nev., Utah, and Wyoming.</p> <p>During the immigrant days, there spots were covered with grass and here vast herds of buffalo ranged.</p> |
| Index Card 989 | <p>Willow Creek, Nev.</p> <p>Showing how landslide trapped the train of passing immigrants about 1876. It is about 7 miles north of Wells, Nev.</p> |
| Index Card 990 | <p>Fort Halleck, Nev.</p> |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| | Standing wall, leaving port holes of old Fort Halleck. Overland Stage Trail. |
| Index Card 991 | Going out of Long Valley Looking back over desert valley as they worked their way out of Long Valley, up into the mountains. |
| Index Card 992 | Near Six Mile Station. Nev. Sept – 1927 Remains of steer that died during expidemic on Humboldt. |
| Index Card 993 | On the South side of Great Salt Lake, in vicinity of Lake Point, Utah. The present Victory Highway parallels the R.R. It is the same ground that Fremont went on in 1845 () and the Reed – Donner party in 1846. |
| Index Card 994 | Marks left by oxen of Donner-Reed party in alkali on desert. |
| Index Card 995 | Passing over Antelope Valley Mts. Nevada. |
| Index Card 996 | Willow Springs – An old immigrant grave near Mr. Tripp's Rnach at Willow Springs. Cote in photo. |
| Index Card 997 | Old emigrant trail up out of Long Valley – Nevada. |
| Index Card 998 | This is the place, where the Reed – Donner prarty buried Luke Haloran, and what is known as Lake Point. Mr. Yates remembers as a boy that there were two immigrant graves here on this spot, 20 feet from where their wagons passed. |
| Index Card 999 | Where State high way crosses the old Emigrant Trail, Fremont Trail and on towards Pilot Peak across Great Salt Lake Desert. |
| Index Card 1000 | Site of Willow Creek Canyon tragedey Willow Creek Canyon, Nev. |
| Index Card 1001 | Willow Creek Canyon – site of tragedy –Aug 1927. |
| Index Card 1002 | Passing down between Dugway Mt. and Grainte Mt. "where we had no roads – an out way to explore the Great Salt Lake Desert." |
| Index Card 1003 | Mt. Egan Pass, up from Cherry Creek, Nev. |
| Index Card 1004 | Fish Spring – off Fish Spring Mt., Utah on the Brekwourth – Overland Trails Sept. 1927. |
| Index Card 1005 | Thro Nevada on the old emigrant trail. |
| Index Card 1006 | I am pointing to where we found immigrant wagons out from Silver Island. On present improved Victory Highway, Silver Island can be seen. |
| Index Card 1007 | These four men are from the Pilot Peak ranch and helped Capt. Davis in the search on the Great desert for the Reed wagons. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mc Kinnon (left.2.3.4. Mc Kinnon |
| Index Card 1008 | Where the Donner Party passed from the Wasatch Mts. Around the southern edge of Great Salt Lake. Fremon also took this trail – the highway and the RR follow it today. |
| Index Card 1009 | Somewhere on the sage covered desert – Utah or Nevada? |
| Index Card 1010 | Camped on the edge of the Great Salt Lake desert, under Granite Mt. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 1011 | Willow Creek Canyon, near Wells, Nevada. Site of tragedy. |
| Index Card 1012 | Josepa Springs, Utah This is where many of the emigrant bound for California stoped to graze their cattle, to get water, repair and grease their wagons, load on water and grass before starting across the Great Salt Lake Desert, by way of the Hastings Trail. |
| Index Card 1013 | The pass between the Dugway and Granite Mts – where many emigrants passed thro to Fish Mt. Springs on the old Beckwourth Trail. |
| Index Card 1014 | On the old Beckwourth Route by way of Granite Mt. to Fish Springs Mt, there on went to Gold Hill. A good hard sand trail leads across Great Salt Lake Desert by way of Granite mountain. |
| Index Card 1015 | The southern edge of the Great Salt Lake. |
| Index Card 1016 | The present – Victory Highway parallels the old emigrant trail the R – D Party – and from Lake Point on way to Salt Lake City Showing foundation of old stage station. |
| Index Card 1017 | Butte Valley, Nevada. “Hud we missed this spot with its well, some 60 ft deep in the center of Butte Valley, we probably would have lost our lives on this trip. It was dug by the stockmen of Nevada” Capt Davis. |
| Index Card 1018 | Lake Point, Utah, where R-D party buried Luke Holloran, and then passed on over Western, Utah. |
| Index Card 1019 | Between Black Ranch and Grainte Mt in Utah – near where Dugway and Granite Mts come together. This is one of the many desert valleys, such as lit between the mountain ranges in Utah, that are now the home of wild horses. |
| Index Card 1020 | On old emigrant wagon that was found in a field, where the old emigrant trail ran in 46-49 – near Grantsville, Utah. For many years it was used by sheepmen until it became useless. Capt. Davis is pointing in the direction of the old trail. |
| Index Card 1021 | On the grave of John Snyder at Lake Point. This old man Yates who located the grave of Snyder for Capt. Davis, to whom (Yates) the story was told him which at the graver as a small boy. He broke down and wept on recalling the ? of young Snyder in 1846. |
| Index Card 1022 | Willow Creek Canyon tragedy site. |
| Index Card 1023 | Xrelic – scale weight Homestead shack – Sept 1927 Edge of Salt Lake – where Reed-Donner party camped for 7days before starting across the desert. The McCullough boys live here – they used the sclaes to weigh ox meat with. All that is left of these scales are now at Sutter’s Fort – including the eights. These scales were diserded by Reed – It was here that Reed repaired the wagons. Pieces of iron, woodite were left here by Reed, but most of the iron was used by McCulloughs for repair work in later years. For years McCullough picked up piecies of iron in this field – causing much profanity on his part. |
| Index Card 1024 | Where emigrants passed up East Canyon to Little Mountain in order to reach Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 1025 | Salt Lake City – Saltair, Utah, this is Henry J. Taugher. |
| Index Card 1026 | Lake Point, showing rocky hill where Donner Party passed on their way to California. Utah. |
| Index Card 1027 | On the old emigrant trail thro Wyoming, between Evanston and state line of Utah, just before coming to Echo Canyon. |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| Index Card 1028 | Willow Creek Canyon rock slide 7 mi above Wells, Nevada site of tragedy. |
| Index Card 1029 | Passing around, out of Butte Valley, Nevada, on the way up to Mt. Egan – This is the old emigrant trail out of Butte Valley Nev. |
| Index Card 1030 | Willow Creek Canyon – 7 miles out from the town of Wells, Nevada, where the tragedy occurred. |
| Index Card 1031 | Overlooking Long Valley, Nev. from the top of the range. |
| Index Card 1032 | Black Rock Springs (Lake Point, Utah) when emigrant used to feed and rest their tired stock, often passing thro the Wasatch Mts. |
| Index Card 1033 | Willow Creek – This is the road the ill fated emigrants passed over to Willow Creek Canyon where a land slide of rock crushed out their lives (see notes) |
| Index Card 1034 | Road to Schellbourne Pass, where emigrant and overland stage and Pony Express routes ran near Cherry Creek. |
| Index Card 1035 | Some of the beautiful rocks near Castle Rock in Echo Canyon, Utah. |
| Index Card 1035* | Mr. and Mrs. Lee Walker of Long Valley, Nevada. |
| Index Card 1036 | On one of the old emigrant trails going over mountains out of Long Valley – Sept. 1927. Nevada. |
| Index Card 1037 | Where old emigrant trail passed out of Mt. Egan – Nevada. |
| Index Card 1038 | This is the pasture that the R-D party passed over after burying Luke Holloran at Lake Point, which is seen in the distance – Utah Luke Holloran |
| Index Card 1039 | Passing around the westerly side of Granite Mt, which is on the right. |
| Index Card 1040 | Granite Mt. Spring on the Beckwourth Trail. Showing old traders cabin. C. Davis is standing on edge of spring ? – Water comes from spring back into the canyon to the right – The captian is standing on site of old emigrant camping place. |
| Index Card 1041 | Where emigrants and freight wagons passed over Mt. Egan in the early days – “the trails of yesterday.” Nevada. White Price ? Out of Cherry Creek. |
| Index Card 1042 | Old emigrant trail up from Egan Pass, off back from Cherry Creek – Nev. |
| Index Card 1043 | A scene at waterhole in Long Valley, where we met Mr. Lee Walker and Shirley Nixon, moving picture stars, hunting wild cats, mountain lions and coyotes for pleasure. |
| Index Card 1044 | Capt. Char. E. Davis In walking trains, out on the Great Salt Lake Desert. Utah off Granit Mt. |
| Index Card 1045 | This young ox was fd by Capt. Davis off Granite Mt. in Utah, some 50 miles from where wagons lay. The marks still show in the desert where the ox came from and becoming completely exhausted began circling round and round, finally falling in this spot. This is probably the crazed steer that frightened the Reed’s children out on the desert the night they cowered in terror after their animals had stampeded. |
| Index Card 1046 | Private 6039008, Ft. McDowell Calif. Hiawaia Div. Emile Cote, who was the undouted assistant of Capt. Davis in his research of valuable data in behalf of the Original, Brave, Pioneers, |

The Charles E. Davis Overland Trail Project Photographs

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| | the Reed – Donner Party of 1846-47-1927 He volunteered his whole ? at this task. |
| Index Card 1047 | Passing out to the North from Dugway pass, over the Great Salt Lake Desert – “We were looking for the run-away oxen of the Reed family, as this is the direction they took.” C.D. |
| Index Card 1048 | Between Granite Mt. and Fish Mt. Hunting for the stray oxen of the Reed family on the Great Salt Lake Desert. Showing how the goo sticks to the feet – worse then adobe, in heat is gets as a ball under your feet and very slippery. This was the kind of ground the R-D party had to go over. |
| Index Card 1049 | This photoshow the scattered parts of emmigrant wagons that the men of Salt Lake City tried to bring in to the celebration there in . The wagon fell apart as they went along, so they gave up the attempt – and left it on the desert. A reward of \$100 was offered to any one bringing in a wagon from there but it couldn’t temp them after their experience on their own trip. |
| Index Card 1050 | Floating Island in the Silver Zone district of the Great S.L. Desert. This was the point the R-D party were making for in 1846. It was some 14 miles out from here that the wagons, horses and oxen were found. |
| Index Card 1051 | Great Salt Lake Desert, off Granite Mt. All the remains of a yoke of oxen that were dug up on the desert by Capt. Davis. (when these oxen died in 1846, the mositure attached the salt out of the air, the bodies became moist and collected the dust, sand, slat and as the mositure from the decaying animals oozed up thro this layer of sand and slat, it gathere more and more debri, until in time the oxen were covered with a caked covering of from ten to 30 inches, see other photos illustrating this. |
| Index Card 1052 | A fine old pair of freight wheels in best of condition at Torgnini’s Ranch in Ruby Valley, Overland stage route. |
| Index Card 1053 | Humboldt River, Nev. Parts of an emigrant oxen found on the trail near Humboldt River, Nev. |
| Index Card 1054 | Card has Cancelled Written Across it. Great Salt Lake Desert – James Reed’s saddle ? laying where it fell near Reed’s blacksmith wagon. From here it is over 21 to 40 miles to the nearest water at Pilot Peak which point he and his wife and children walked in. The home made shoes were still on and parts of the harness and saddle |
| Index Card 1054* | Between Granite Mt. and Fish Springs about 3 miles back of where Cote is standing in 1048 – (? and hide are from this horse the hoof with shoe is also at Fort.) Leather from saddle was all rotted – only part of horses hide had lasted – Also brass spots from ornaments of saddle were found in sand. It was a saddle horse. The eagles had torn everything to pieces. |
| Index Card 1055 | Great Slat Lake Desert. Looking towards Pilot Peak to the N.W. from the place where the Reed wagons were found, some 8 miles out from Silver Island. Also where Fremont crossed in 1844-5 and where he lost some of his horses and mules, and almost perished himself. |
| Index Card 1056 | Old well found on Overland Trail in Ruby Valley, Nevada. |
| Index Card 1057 | 1057 Card located in McClashan book folder box #8-103-308 |
| Index Card 1058 | Hand made yokes found near the Eight Mile Ranch, Nevada. These yokes were brought in off the desert by the Shoshaw Indians. |
| Index Card 1058* | 1058 Card located in McClashan book folder box # 8-103-308 |

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| Index Card 1059 | 1059 Card located in McClashan book folder box # 8-103-308 |
| Index Card 1060 | Handmade axle found in the Wasatch Mountains on route taken by Donner party. On way up Little Mountain, 4 miles from East Canyon. |
| Index Card 1061 | A horse found on old Mormon trail in East Canyon. |
| Index Card 1062 | This is the oldest Mormon in Utah living today, a Mr. Spence of Tooele Valley, the old Emigrant Trail passes close to his home. He cam in with Brigham Young in 1847. |
| Index Card 1063 | Hennifer, Utah. These people showed me where a person was buried by a passig immigrant train enroute to California in 1847. |
| Index Card 1064 | On of the men who cam here with Brigham Young and farmed this pretty Valley. Stuch here a lifetime. Brought up a splendid family and is a good example of the "men who won the West." |
| Index Card 1065 | This lade is showing us two pistols that were carried by her husband (now dead) when John-son's army was about to attack these Mormon settlers. |
| Index Card 1066 | Remaining old buildings of Historic old Ford Bridger, Wyoming. |
| Index Card 1067 | One of the old buildings of Fort Bridger, Wyoming. (Owner Mr. Carter.) |
| Index Card 1068 | Some of building of F.C. Bridger and some of hand hewn beams that came out of old Jim Bridger's trading post. Mr. Carter showing Capt. Davis. |
| Index Card 1069 | An old fireplace in Old Fort Bridger. |
| Index Card 1070 | A waterhole, one of many, hidden so that only an experienced person would find them. Panamint Mountains, near Death Vallery. |
| Index Card 1071 | Mr. Casto, at Fort Bridger, Wyoming, pointing out Grounds where flagstaff stood. |
| Index Card 1072 | Old Fort Bridger, Wyoming. |
| Index Card 1073 | Entrance to camp grounds of old historic Fort Bridger, Wyoming. |
| Index Card 1074 | This unique momunment erected in honor of the Mormon pioneers, who settled in this pretty valley on the fothhills of the Wasatch Mountains about Salt Lake City. "This is the Place" says Brigham Young on his arrival here, the place where his beloved people were hunting for homes and religious independence of any other religion, not seceding from the U.S. |
| Index Card 1075 | A part of East Canyon, on the trail of Reed-Donner route. |
| Index Card 1076 | Commissary buildings, Fort Bridger, Wyoming. |
| Index Card 1077 | East Canyon, route of the Donner party. On way up Little Mountains. |
| Index Card 1078 | Old trees show where wheels of Immigrant wagons left this makrings on way over the Wasatch mountains, Utah. |
| Index Card 1079 | A splendid landmark where immigrants split, some going by the Fort Hall, Ogden Route, someing by Weber River Route, to the south of Salt Lake. At Old Fort Bridger. |
| Index Card 1080 | At old historic Fort Bridger where buildings are gradually falling into decay, and should be taken over and preserved. |

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| Index Card 1081 | Relics cemented in gate post at entrance of Old Fort Bridger, Wyoming. |
| Index Card 1082 | Where old Jim Bridger had his trading post in 1846, the grounds of Fort Bridger, Wyoming. |
| Index Card 1083 | Route of Reed-Donner party up and over to Little Mountain. |
| Index Card 1084 | A meadow in Eacho Canyon, Wyoming down from Fort Bridger toward Weber River. |
| Index Card 1085 | Eacho Canyon, upper Weber River, Utah, colored sandstone of great beauty along side of the old Emigrant Trail. |
| Index Card 1086 | The beautiful Weber River at the first crossing where Reed-Donner party went south up East Canyon over the mountains to Salt Lake Valley. |
| Index Card 1087 | On the route of the Reed – Donner Trail near State line of Wyoming and Utah. |

* Duplicate Number